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MARTLET

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Battle for the boreal

Environmental groups take on Kimberly-Clark
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GRAHAM STARR GRAPHIC

UVic signs $39 million deal to build submarine cable system

by Kurt Heinrich and Kate Webb

The University of Victoria has secured its place as the lead institution in a project to build an 800-kilometre-long underwater cable system to relay data from the seabed to observers above sea level.

The signing of a $39 million contract between UVic and mega-corporation Alcatel was announced Oct. 20, and marks the largest contract ever awarded by UVic.

Alcatel will be responsible for the design and installation of the North-East Pacific Time-series Undersea Network Experiments (NEPTUNE), the underwater, cabled ocean observatory network that UVic President Dr. David Turpin has referred to as a "revolutionary project."

NEPTUNE is a joint Canada-U.S. initiative headed by UVic and the University of Washington, though there are a myriad of other institutes, including NASA, and universities involved.

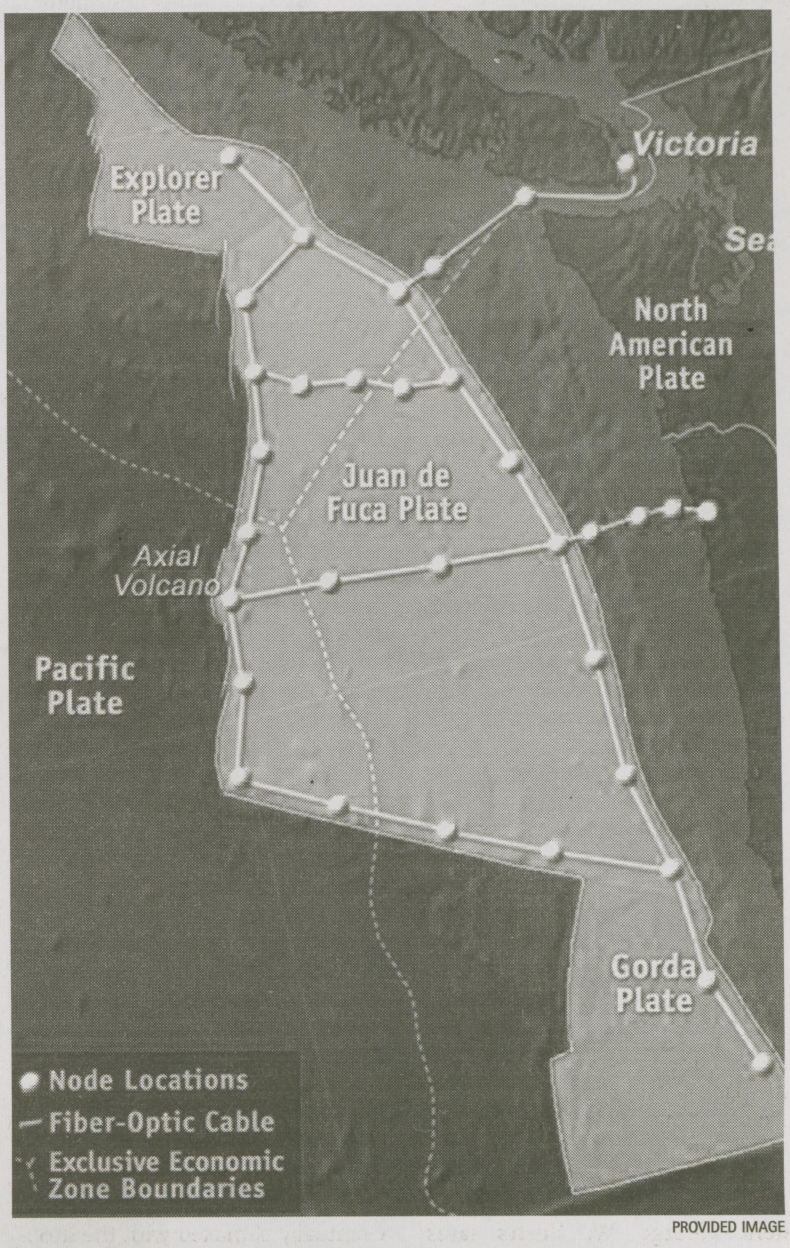
The aim of the project is to construct a large cable network of observatory control centres, or "nodes," off Vancouver Island.

"NEPTUNE will transform the ocean sciences by bringing abundant power and the Internet into the deep ocean environment," said Dr. Chris Barnes, project director for Neptune Canada.

"A new generation of sensors and robotic vehicles will be able to transmit a vast amount of information and images 24-7 for over 25 years. It will allow society begin to understand this last major frontier on Earth and to develop public policies for sound management."

Once constructed, the system will span across most of the Juan de Fuca tectonic plate, and collect streams of data concerning oceanic climate changes, fish migrations, underwater volcanic eruptions and earthquakes that could expose the West Coast to dangerous tsunamis. The data will be sent to a variety of different universities, researchers, science centres, and even the general public via the Internet.

The end of the cable will land at a UVic-owned Port Alberni shore station, and NEPTUNE data will be collected and broadcasted 24 hours a day, seven days a week for an estimated 25 years.



PROVIDED IMAGE

UVic will help build a system of underwater "nodes" that will span most of the Juan de Fuca tectonic plate by 2008.

Barnes says UVic students will reap the benefits of having their university so intensely involved in the project.

"With UVic leading the project, and with UVic's strong focus on ocean sciences, our students will be in a perfect position to work with a wide range of faculty members and nearby government researchers at the leading edge of the ocean sciences," said Barnes.

"Our teaching programs will be able to incorporate real-time ocean observations, high-definition television imagery, and experimental data; the data and technology is of interest to earth and ocean scientists, engineers, computer scientists and environmental scientists."

Alcatel also built a deep-water cabled observatory system for the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institution in California. The company is emphasizing its dedication to creating a system that will be solid from the very beginning, and hopes to have it up and running by 2008.

"Given the remoteness of the nodes and the depth of the cable, the infrastructure must be extremely reliable since conducting repair work would be costly and very complicated," said Barnes.

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Homeless rights activist jailed again

by Matthew Gauk

St. Ann's resident "monk," the man who spearheaded the right to sleep movement among homeless people in downtown Victoria, was back in jail this week.

David Arthur Johnston has been moving between jail, the courthouse, and the grounds at St. Ann's Academy for several months. Johnston, 32, was found to be violating his probation order in a court hearing Oct. 25 and given a 90-day conditional sentence.

The sentence was appealed on Oct. 31 by Johnston's lawyer, William Geimer, but the appeal won't be heard until March.

"A conditional sentence order is like a jail sentence served in the community. This is the first time he's ever been sentenced to that," said Geimer. "And in the meantime he's been arrested for going back to St. Ann's and he's in jail."

Johnston was arrested on the grounds of St. Ann's the night of Oct. 30. Not including this most recent stint, Johnston's been in jail for a total of 62 days in the last few months, all for breaching orders not to go onto the St. Ann's grounds.

Johnston's situation is representative of the fight homeless people have launched for the right to sleep at parks like St. Ann's and Cridge Park, said Geimer.

"It's because he's an intelligent young man. He doesn't have health problems or drug problems and the Crown has yet to answer the question, 'You tell me I can't go here or I can't go there, where can I go?' and until the Crown answers that question there will be nothing but trouble."

Meanwhile, police once again broke up the haphazard and nomadic tent city formed by Victoria homeless and activist groups congregated to support Johnston's fight against the Crown.

The illegal tent city began at St. Ann's in late September, and then migrated to the nearby Cridge Park several weeks ago. Police showed up to disperse about 60 people staying at Cridge Park the morning of Oct. 28, only to have the campers move over to a new grassy space outside the city courthouse on Blanshard Avenue.

Police broke up the courthouse camp-out the afternoon of Oct. 29 and arrested three people who refused to leave.

Another handful of campers attempted to return to Cridge Park the same day but were turned away by police.

AARON MCMILLAN PHOTO

A tent city like this one, pictured Oct. 4 at St. Ann's Academy, was broken up at Cridge Park Oct. 28.

Princeton prof explains what the West can learn from bin Laden

by Meghan Planchon

Political philosopher and Princeton University religious studies scholar Dr. Jeffrey Stout spoke Oct. 27 on what the West, and particularly the United States, can learn from Osama bin Laden and his critique of Western society.

Delivering the second of four lectures at the invitation of UVic's Centre for Studies in Religion and Society, the Princeton scholar kept his packed audience rapt as he introduced the controversial topic.

"'We are facing radical ideology focused on enslaving the world,'" Stout began, quoting one of President George W. Bush's latest speeches. "'In truth they [al-Qaida] have endless ambitions of imperial domination, to make everyone weak except themselves.'"

Stout then went on to discuss Bush's comments within the framework of bin Laden's own criticism, pointing towards three arguments that have drawn wide support from across the Islamic world.

The first condemnation leveled at the West is its adherence to a corrupt system of justice, one that lacks any basis on Shariah Law, the law of Islam.

The second and more resonate argument employed by bin Laden, according to Stout, is the hypocrisy of the West's position on the denunciation of terrorism and weapons of mass destruction (WMDs). Stout pointed out the widespread use of military terror and WMDs in the Second World War, a policy that eventually climaxed with the dropping of atomic weapons.

"The unprecedented bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki has left the United States without the moral power to defeat militant Islam," said the Princeton professor.

The last, and perhaps most powerful critique in bin Laden's sheath, Stout said, is one that suggests Western ideals are little more than smokescreens of domination that must necessarily be resisted by all Muslims. It is this final reason that Stout commented was perhaps the most dangerous and implacable hurdle in the quest for peace between Islam and the West.

"I am anything but confident that my own people are capable of measuring up to the ideals to which they hold dear," Stout said of the struggle between the West and Middle East.

Indeed, as Stout illustrated, demands to tighten security in the West to protect against the phantom menace of terrorism have persisted as one of the main justifications for war and Western militarism in the Middle East. It is this domestic demand to "help" friendly governments and bolster the U.S.'s own network of security, Stout argued, that has turned the U.S. into a so-called "benign dominator."

Stout pointed out the hypocrisy of this current position, given that U.S. revolutionaries once revolted against the "benign" domination of Great Britain. That revolt, he said, had far less motivation than rebels in the Islamic world presently possess.

For Stout, this is the nutshell of the problem. While the West holds tightly to its conceptions of liberty and freedom, these ideas seem strongly contradictory to their foreign policy of dominance, whereby wars are fought by seemingly unscrupulous and unjust administrations.

And, Stout asked, how do we judge the motives of administrations and governments in the Western world?

The professor's answer is that it is essential that all citizens of democratic republics demand their leaders and elites openly demonstrate that their intentions are just, limited, and most importantly, open to public contestation and discussion.

"The stakes are just too high to treat elites' intentions as innocent by default," Stout said emphatically.

In the last few minutes of his discussion, the professor brought the lecture back to the topic of its title, "What the West Can Learn About itself from bin Laden."

He linked his previously stated ideas of just democracy with the Islamic world's perceptions of the Western world's contradiction between its foreign policy and idealistic core values.

"What we can learn about ourselves from bin Laden is the same thing we can learn if we focused on our own ideals more specifically."

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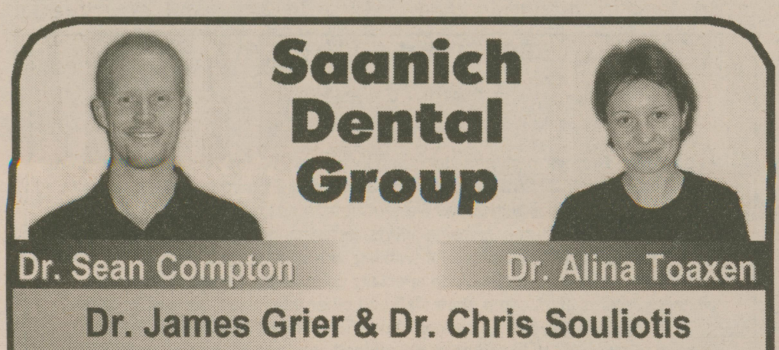

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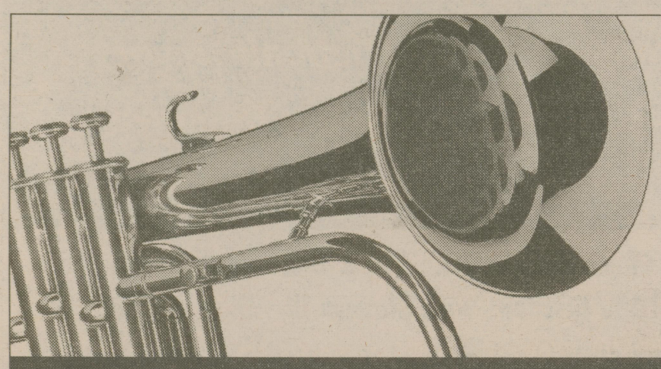

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UVic hosts first Campus Sustainability Day

MATTHEW GAUK PHOTO

Passers-by stop to check out the the displays at UVic's University Centre for Campus Sustainability Day, Oct. 26.

by Matthew Gauk

What do fair trade coffee, Ice Cream With a Conscience, a pumpkin-smashing event, hemp clothing, and a hotel development have in common?

They each had their own booth at the Green Marketplace during the first Campus Sustainability Day on Oct. 26. The event, hosted by the UVic Business Sustainability Club, was just one of many on a day full of workshops, tours, and presentations around campus.

"It's always good to get out and talk to people who haven't seen what's available," said Bill Finley, owner of Hemp and Company. "People want to make the right decisions but don't know where to make them. It really opens their eyes."

Finley spent his time fielding questions about the benefits of hemp clothing.

Shady Creek Ice Cream gave out samples of their slave labour-free chocolate ice creams and sorbets.

The Dockside Green development project displayed colourful illustrations and maps of its "ecologically restorative" complex, slated to be built downtown, to get feedback from the university crowd.

"It was an excellent event," said UVic sustainability co-ordinator Sarah Webb, who helped organize the day. "It was the first one we've ever celebrated here at UVic and I think that, overall, it was a huge success."

Other events included introductions to veganism and worm composting, a cycling visibility station, and lectures on fair trade and global waste issues.

International sustainability days have been organized on campus by the Society for College and University Planning (SCUP) for the past three years, emphasizing three pillars—society, environment, and economy.

Webb says the goals of sustainability days are to raise awareness of sustainability issues and to celebrate successes.

"And also to help us identify challenges of new projects and new initiatives and new directions for sustainability here on campus," she said.

One of the biggest success stories this year, Webb said, was an international business class that put together class projects to showcase as part of their curriculum.

"It was such a neat opportunity for students to have their schoolwork be used for a tangible event and it's going somewhere," said Webb.

"So we're hoping next year we can include geography, environmental studies, perhaps an engineering course, and get a whole variety of different classes working on projects for the event."

While Webb's office took the lead on the event, it was a combined effort among the UVic Business Sustainability Club, the Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group (VIPIRG), the UVic Sustainability Project, the department of geography, the UVSS, Groundworks Learning Centre, and a legion of student volunteers.

"We're hoping to have it as an annual event, and next year even bigger and better with more people involved," said Webb.

School of nursing adopts formal PhD program

by Jessica Earle

The UVic school of nursing received approval from the university senate Oct. 7 to implement a formal PhD program to begin next fall.

The program still needs to be approved by the university's board of governors and the Ministry of Advanced Education.

The decision follows the school's success at implementing PhD programs by special arrangement, where there are currently eight students pursuing their doctoral work. This was intended to be a temporary solution and has proven that the university is equipped to handle an integrated and formal version.

Marjorie McIntyre, program coordinator of the nursing PhD program, said the temporary arrangement allows faculties to determine if they are able to offer students a doctoral program.

The new outline is more structured and all students in the discipline-specific course will have a standard package of courses instead of having to draft their entire course package with a supervisor, as special arrangement students have had to.

While the school has averaged a single nursing PhD graduate per year since 2000, that number is expected to jump to five graduates a year by 2010.

UVic currently offers a bachelor of science undergraduate program in partnership with six other B.C. colleges and universities, and one affiliate in the Northwest Territories, and a masters of advanced nursing practices.

The PhD program is a natural extension that narrows in on research perspectives while still revolving around concepts common to the field of nursing such as health, persons, family and relationships. The program concentrates on research, teaching, practice and administration.

The program also addresses the anticipated demand for PhD faculty across the disciplines, where it is estimated that over the next decade 25,000 to 30,000 faculty positions will open up, according to the UVic senate planning committee.

"We have an aging population that includes professional nurses, and the University of Victoria is looking to replenish the professorial ranks," said Marjorie MacDonald, interim director of the school of nursing.

The average age of a nurse educator in B.C. is 52 and high levels of retirement are expected within the next five to seven years.

The expansion of the nursing program is part of a larger initiative included in UVic's Strategic Plan, "A Vision of the Future," which recognizes the "growing need for highly educated graduate professionals" and states, "graduate enrollment and programming . . . should increase at a greater rate than undergraduate."

PhDs in nursing are currently offered at 10 universities in Canada and, with the exception of the University of Alberta, and each facility only admits a handful of students a year—not enough to fill the predicted professional void.

With 24 faculty members who hold doctoral degrees, UVic anticipates a strong program.

"After five years of careful planning, the school of nursing is thrilled by each step that brings full approval closer. For the advancement of your own discipline, you need doctoral programs," said McIntyre.

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Battle for the boreal

UVic activists and other groups face off against Kimberly-Clark

by Briony Smith

Environmental groups have launched a national campaign called Kleercut against tissue companies like Kimberly-Clark for their role in the depletion of the North American boreal forest.

The first annual International Day of Action for the Boreal Forest is scheduled for Nov. 3.

Greenpeace has joined forces with ForestEthics, the Rainforest Action Network, and the Victoria Boreal Forest Activist Group for the International Day of Action.

The continent's largest ancient forest, the North American boreal forest, stretches from Alaska to the eastern provinces of Canada and represents 25 per cent of the world's remaining ancient forest.

"It's a real conservation opportunity for us in Canada because of [the forest's] size and intact nature. It has special ecological value," said Greenpeace forest campaigner Richard Brooks.

The importance of the boreal forest also lies in its key role in climate change, as the forest contains huge carbon stores, and is also a habitat for countless wild animals. The forest is home to some three billion migratory birds in the summer months, and houses endangered species heavily impacted by logging, such as the woodland caribou and wolverine.

"Kimberly-Clark is putting immense pressure on the boreal forest for disposable products that you only use once," said Brooks.

Kimberly-Clark is the world's largest tissue product company. In 2004, they used three million tonnes of virgin tree fibre in their tissue products. Less than 19 per cent of the fibres they use are recycled, and their popular product, Kleenex, is made of 100 per cent virgin fibre.

"And their hunger for virgin fibres is having a huge impact on the forest," Brooks said.

Kimberly-Clark spokesperson Dave Dickson, however, feels Greenpeace and its affiliates are ignoring an important part of the deforestation picture. He says Kimberly-Clark follows very strict policies when it comes to sustainability and ecology.

"We're considered relatively progressive in our sustainability policies," he said. "While some of our fibres come from the boreal forest in Canada, it represents a relatively small portion of what Kimberly-Clark uses on a global basis."

In fact, 15 per cent of Kimberly-Clark's pulp comes from the Canadian boreal forest, but Dickson says the company uses responsible harvesting practices and affected areas are reforested immediately. He also says Kimberly-Clark is interested in preserving the boreal forest and working with conservationists.

"The situation is not as simple as Greenpeace would make it appear," he said.

According to Dickson, Kleenex, like all the other leading tissue brands, is made from virgin fibres because the consumer demand for "quality, softness, strength, and whiteness" is paramount. But their "away from home" tissue—for use in hotels, airports, schools, and restaurants—is made from 40 to 60 per cent recycled fibres.

"The vast majority of trees in the boreal forest are not harvested solely for fibre," said Dickson, citing a Canadian Forest Service study that found that 83 per cent of all trees harvested in Canada in 2000 were slated for home lumber.

"The vast majority of the fibre we purchase comes from residual waste—the sawdust and chips," Dickson said. "The trees were not cut down for fibre."

In addition to the fact that Kimberly-Clark's corporate policy specifies they only purchase fibre from vendors who use sustainable forest practices, Dickson says by the end of 2005, Kimberly-Clark's global fibre suppliers must adhere to at least one of the five internationally recognized forest certifications. By the end of 2004, 69 per cent of the virgin pulp suppliers had received certification of their forestlands, and Dickson expects that all of them will be certified by the end of this year.

Studies from the Canadian Forest Service and from the Canadian Boreal Initiative, Dickson says, show that Kimberly-Clark buys 1.3 per cent of all boreal region forest products, including products used for newsprint, lumber, and pulp.

"Since 1999, we've also been a part of the Ontario Living Legacy Land Use Strategy, which aims to establish 378 new protected areas in Ontario," Dickson said.

"We worked with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to identify 90,000 acres that will be permanently off-limits to any commercial logging or development, with sections of it already permanently set-aside to remain in a pristine state."

But Brooks, too, is keen to stress the importance of preservation.

"The North American boreal forest is publicly owned by Canadians—unfortunately, it is impacted by uncontrolled development, both for oil and gas, [and] by unsustainable logging, too," he said. "But it's really a piece of our national heritage, and we want to highlight the risk and threat to it by convincing more people to use recycled products, and support sustainable forestry by boycotting products that come from unsustainable clearcutting."

The Kleercut campaign is made up of nearly 100 activist groups from across Canada and the United States. There are 180 events planned for 161 cities in Canada and the U.S.

"The issue should be important to Vancouver Islanders not only because they have seen the type of destruction caused by environmentally irresponsible companies firsthand, but because every Victorian, every UVic student, owns Canada's forests, and protecting them from liquidation doesn't take a major effort—every time you go to the grocery store is an opportunity to put pressure on these companies," said Brooks.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Over 700,000 tonnes of disposable tissue products, some of which are produced from ancient forests like the North American boreal forest, are used each year in Canada.

"We are in a lucky position as consumers to have direct impact—every day we use napkins, blow our noses, and go to the bathroom, and the choices we make count."

Keely Bays, publicity and outreach co-ordinator for the Victoria chapter of the Western Canada Wilderness Committee and a member of the Victoria Boreal Forest Activist Group, says students do indeed make decisions with environmental impact on a daily basis.

"In addition to the unprecedented clearcutting rates on the island and in the province, 650 hectares of boreal forest are logged each year, so our goal is to make students think twice about what kind of notebook they're buying, and question the Weyerhaeuser paper they are using to make photocopies," she said.

As a postscript to the official Nov. 3 day of action, the Victoria group is having its own day of action on Nov. 18.

There will be an information and outreach table at the university where students can learn about the issues, write a letter to Kimberly-Clark, sign a petition, and sign up to be a part of the Victoria Boreal Forest Activist Group. Planned post-day of action activities include an Adopt-a-Grocery-Store program, where volunteers can present local grocery store managers with a letter outlining the goals of the Kleercut campaign and encourage them to stock the products of sustainability-responsible companies in their store.

"More and more forests in British Columbia are becoming privatized, making it impossible for people to have a say in what happens to [them]," said Bays. "But the North American boreal forest is public—we must realize that that is pretty special and should be taken seriously. We need to stand up for the forest."

For more information on the International Day of Action for the Boreal Forest, visit www.kleercut.net.

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Depression a year-round threat

by Briony Smith

The gathering darkness and rain-filled gloom might seem to make autumn the easiest time to succumb to melancholy, but depression—and suicidal feelings—can hit at any time of year.

"While there is a slight raise in depression in the fall, at Christmastime, around the holidays and the change of the seasons, depression is a year-round issue," said Wendy Lum, a counsellor with University of Victoria Counselling Services, located in the Campus Services building.

"We're here to try and offer the support that people need. There are just so many issues that students are dealing with," she said, listing anxiety, relationship trouble, self-esteem, and roommate stress as some of the issues that plague the student population.

Out of the 2,035 students Counselling Services saw last year, 685 said they suffered from depression.

"For 'depression,' the percentage of our clients indicating this concern has been trending upward," said Dr. Joe Parsons, manager of UVic Counselling Services. "For example, in 1989 it was only 12.4 per cent of our individual clients, and this past year it was nearly 34 per cent."

Parsons also says the trend matches data reported at universities across North America.

"The student segment of the population is especially at risk for depression because there's just so much pressure," said Lum. "They have to deal with the financial aspect, as well as often juggling work and school. Some people who have been out of school for a while and then come back find it hard to deal with, while others don't know what direction they're going. It really is a time with a lot of stress and life changes."

Fall weather can be the culprit for some, as the lack of sunshine often allows seasonal affective disorder (SAD) to rear its head. Lum says that people who feel they may be suffering from SAD can see a counsellor, who can refer them to a doctor to diagnose the disorder.

The referral service is just one of many on offer from UVic Counselling Services. Short-term personal therapy is available for students, who are allotted six sessions per year, after which the counsellors have a wealth of community resources and referrals to offer students.

"Students who need the extra help get it," said Lum.

Counselling Services also has a host of ongoing groups with a wide range of topics, ranging from self-esteem for women, to anxiety drop-in sessions, to support groups for international students and GLBTQ students.

They also offer two eight-week Depression Management Groups each term.

"They make you feel like you're not alone," Lum said of the support groups.

Friends should figure into the equation, too. Lum suggests that having pals on the lookout for symptoms of depression like irritability, sadness, negativity, self-criticism, change in appetite or sleeping patterns, and lack of concentration can aid in staving off major depression.

"People needn't be afraid to reach out, and we really encourage friends to be vigilant."

Lum stresses the importance of self-care. "You need to take care of your own needs, be kind to yourself and take care of yourself," she said. This includes keeping up good nutrition and regular exercise, and seeking medical attention and counselling if you feel like your life energy is draining away.

Sometimes a dearth of energy can lead to feeling suicidal.

"Suicide isn't particular to any time of year," said Katie Shaw, Youth Outreach co-ordinator for Victoria's NEED Crisis and Information Line. While UVic Counselling offers a more hands-on service, NEED, with its slogan, "The Fine Heart of Listening," is there to lend a friendly ear.

"Seventy per cent of our calls are support calls," said Shaw.

Open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, NEED does not take a clinical approach, says Shaw. "We're really just helping our callers get to a place where they can get through the day."

For those who might not make it through the day, NEED volunteers get an Emergency Mental Health Services employee on the phone with the caller and the trio talk it out.

"We really try and get them to understand that there is nothing wrong with talking—it releases pressure," explained Shaw.

Volunteers also often refer students to UVic Counselling Services, where they can get more intensive help, says Shaw.

A former UVic student herself, Shaw knows how stressful university life can be.

"Students can often feel isolated or that they're not living up to expectations. As well, school is a huge time of change. Sometimes these people just need to talk."

The confidentiality of the crisis line goes a long way toward helping people open up. Volunteers are discouraged from disclosing that they are working for NEED, and the line is housed at a secret location. Callers can be assured that volunteers come from all walks of life: male, female, transgender, straight, queer, young, old.

So whether you head over to UVic Counselling Services or give the NEED Crisis and Information Line a ring, don't be afraid to reach out and touch someone.

"We're just there to listen," said Shaw, "and it works."

The University of Victoria Counselling Services' event and group schedules are available at www.coun.uvic.ca/general/month.html.

Those interested in volunteering for the NEED Crisis and Information Line can call 386-6328. The next volunteer session starts Nov. 19.

WILLIE LI PHOTO

Dr. Joe Parsons and UVic counsellor Wendy Lum work to help students suffering with depression.

Beating the winter blues

Self-care, which includes doing fun things you enjoy, can help avoid depression. Or, as Bruce Saunders, founder of Movie Monday at the Eric Martin Institute (EMI), suggests, take in some entertaining, educational (and free!) films during which you can forget your troubles for a while.

Coming off of a severe depression and a second suicide attempt, Saunders didn't want EMI's 100-seat lecture auditorium and video projector go to waste. He started screening interesting international selections and hosting dialogues about mental illness and health, and thus Movie Monday was born.

Now in its twelfth year, Movie Monday—billed as "a whole lot more than a free movie"—is a great place to head for a cheap date or stimulating discourse about hot issues. They often screen Canadian films, documentaries, and films that probe into mental health issues. Fun screenings in the past have included *My Son the Tattoo Artist* with the director and subject in attendance, and a showing of *The Take*, after which the director answered questions via telephone.

Upcoming selections include *Jupiter's Wife* (Nov. 7), a documentary about a homeless schizophrenic woman. Bill McPhee, founder of *Schizophrenia Digest*, will be in attendance.

UVic top-notch in the study of geosciences

by Lara Jeletzky

The school of earth and ocean sciences (SEOS) at the University of Victoria has been rated number one in the study of geosciences.

According to Thomson Scientific, a company that compares Canadian universities based on research citations, Canada's scientific community referenced more papers submitted this year for publication by UVic geosciences researchers than by any other university in the country.

Dr. Andrew Weaver, a member of the SEOS faculty and a researcher working on a climate model simulator, is not the least bit surprised by the recognition.

UVic's geosciences research program "is one of the top in the world, to be perfectly blunt," he said. "Does [the recognition] mean anything to individual people in the department? Probably not, [but] it does mean on an institutional level, UVic is second to none."

UVic geosciences experts on campus are currently earning their praise through a variety of innovative research projects, which Weaver says are very much interconnected.

Dr. Adam Monahan, one of Weaver's colleagues, is a climate physicist and another of the department's highly cited geosciences researchers. Monahan works to find new perspectives on climate dynamics, and is the publisher of more than 30 of his own research papers.

He is especially enthusiastic about having the school and research recognized.

"It's remarkable," he said. "It's a testament to what we've been able to accomplish in the last ten years."

SEOS was established in 1991, when it became the first university department in Canada to develop an integrated multidisciplinary approach to earth system science. Dr. Kathy Gillis, director of the school, explains that the study of geosciences is integral to our understanding of the planet and its climate and weather patterns.

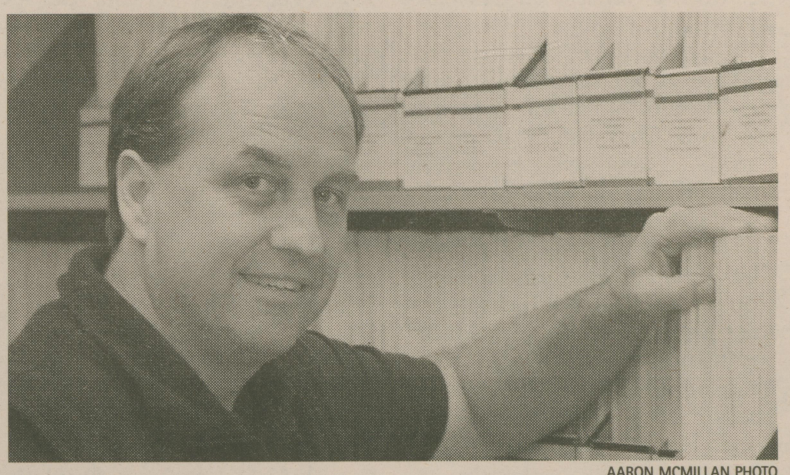
"The geosciences are all about exploring what happens naturally and why: physical and chemical phenomena that shape the oceans [and] the atmosphere," she said. "The UVic climate model . . . is used around the world."

When asked how she felt about the rating, Gillis echoed Weaver's sentiments.

"We know where we're at," she said.

A new SEOS building is scheduled for completion in 2008. Gillis says she is looking forward to SEOS having "a building [we] can call [our] own."

Until now, SEOS facilities have been located at opposite ends of campus. According to Gillis, physical expansion will greatly benefit the active SEOS undergraduate community.



AARON MCMILLAN PHOTO

Dr. Andrew Weaver works with one of the world's most powerful climate simulators at UVic's school of earth and ocean sciences.

Weaver's outlook on the future of SEOS is more focused on finding real world applications for his research.

"What I'm working on is . . . in the area of the ocean's role in climate change, how [the] climate system works, past present and future," he explained.

Weaver also says he is particularly interested in the crossover of science and the social sciences. He is involved in numerous public outreach projects, including writing fourth grade curricula and investigating how science is taught in schools. Principally this involves developing a mechanism to get students more involved in the applied sciences.

"[Although] the climate model is our bread and butter, public outreach is fun, a distraction from the daily grind of research papers," he said.

Weaver is also excited about the impact the rating will have on the university as a whole.

"A university looks for a niche, a way to be unique in one area," he said. "When people write here, frankly, people read it."

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Film tour blasts Canada's security measures

'9-11 has exposed how fragile our multiculturalism is,' says law prof

by Meghan Planchon

Right now, four foreign nationals are being held in prison indefinitely on suspicion of terrorist links, without the right to know crucial details of evidence being brought against them.

In response, the National Film Board of Canada and überculture, a grassroots social organization, are taking a series of documentary films across the country to raise awareness of the Canadian government's treatment of suspect non-citizens.

The practice has been targeted by the two social organizations as an abuse of human rights in Canada, and the UN Committee Against Torture reprimanded the Canadian government in May 2005 for upholding the legislation that allows them to take such measures.

Under post-9-11 legislation, the Canadian government asserts it has the right to hold non-citizens indefinitely by issuing a document called a security certificate. The document is issued under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (IRPA), and enables the government to deport permanent residents, refugees, and temporary visitors from Canada without substantive judicial review.

Security certificates have been around since 1991, but increased federal emphasis on border security since the 2001 attack on the World Trade Centre has led to mounting pressure on the government to do away with them.

The film tour shedding light on this phenomenon, entitled Measuring Security Measures, hit UVic Oct. 27, and featured documentaries on the specific cases of Canadian security certificate detainees.

One documentary, *Whose Rights Anyway? Justice for Mohamed*, told the story of Algerian refugee Mohamed Harkat, who was arrested three years ago in Ottawa on suspicion of having links to terrorist groups. He still awaits a final ruling.

If a federal judge deems a certificate "reasonable," detainees like Harkat can be deported to their home country.

The UN argues this is a violation of the UN Convention Against Torture, which Canada signed. The agreement prohibits the extradition of a person to "a state where there are substantial grounds for believing that he would be in danger of being tortured."

The Canadian Federal Court of Appeal, however, upheld the use of security certificates to detain suspected terrorists in 2004, arguing they were consistent with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. In the United States, the Patriot Act also allows for indefinite detention without charges.

Not all industrialized Western countries have decided to follow suit with North America.

However Britain's highest court, the House of Lords, struck down similar security legislation allowing the country to discriminate between citizens and non-citizens in 2004.

UVic law professor Donald Galloway, who specializes in immigration law and has served as a member of the Refugee Division of the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada, was on hand at the screening to lead discussion on the issues and answer questions.

Galloway commends the work of the UN, and says Canada's policies are a source of great shame.

"Human rights are being attached not to humanity but to one's citizenship status," he said.

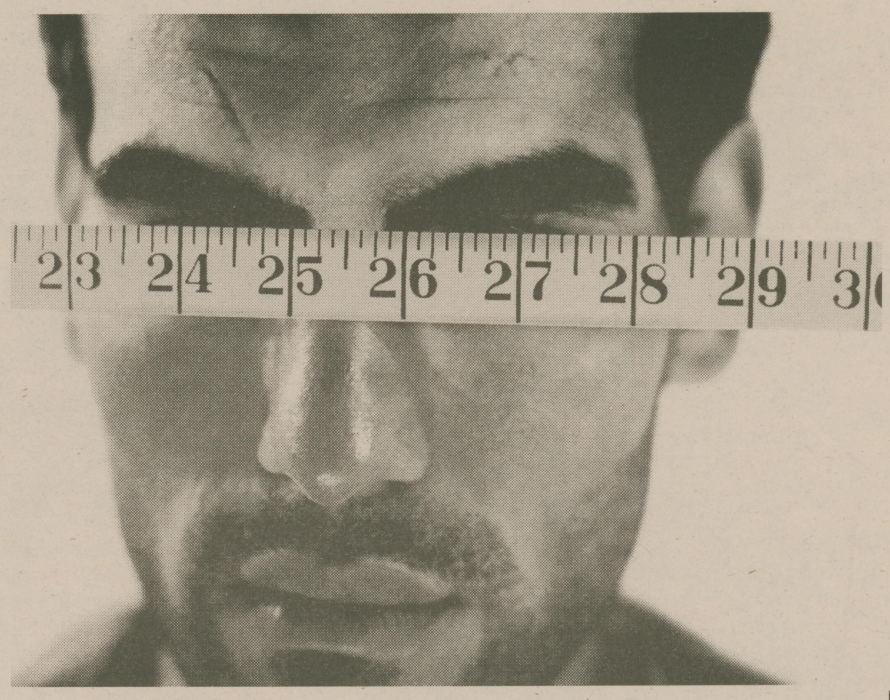
When detainees are brought to trial under security certificates they are often denied access to the entire evidence presented against them, Galloway added. Officially, this is meant to protect national security.

In *Whose Rights Anyway?*, the viewer witnesses the difficulties faced by Harkat and his lawyer as they try to come up with a defence without knowing what evidence supports Harkat's charges.

Four people are currently being held under security certificates in Canada. A fifth man, Adil Charkaoui, was released on bail in February. The remaining men are fighting deportation to Morocco, Algeria, Syria and Egypt, where they fear torture.

There are many more cases that have received no media attention, Galloway reminded the audience. Non-citizens can be arrested or detained and we never hear about it, he said. "This kind of secrecy underlies the whole system," he said.

In 2002, the Canadian Council for Refugees estimated an average of 439 people a day are detained under immigration legislation in Canada.



PROVIDED PHOTO

A series of documentaries measures Canada's UN-opposed practice of detaining foreign nationals without due process.

In a report titled "The Reasons for a New Law," Citizenship and Immigration Canada defends new immigration policies. The report says they give "Canada the tools to say 'no' more quickly in order to remove serious criminals, and to say 'yes' more often to the immigrants and refugees it needs to continue to grow."

Critics of the new legislation point to occurrences like Project Thread, an incident illustrated in the documentary *Threadbare*, as evidence the new immigration legislation is being used in a discriminatory manner.

Project Thread was an operation jointly conducted by the Department of Citizenship and Immigration Canada and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

On Aug. 14, 2003, 23 men in the Greater Toronto Area were arrested in pre-dawn raids under the pretext they were part of an "al-Qaida sleeper cell." The main "threads" connecting the men were that all but one came from the Punjab province in Pakistan, and had once attended the same school in Canada.

Officials eventually backed away from their initial claim that the men posed a threat to national security, though the group remained in detention. Most of evidence used against them was discredited.

Many of the Project Thread targets ended up being deported on immigration violations, and were never charged with terrorist violations.

"Who are we securing ourselves from, and who do we want to come? Yuppies to pay the pensions and temporary workers to wash the dishes," Galloway commented. "I had thought we had created something quite deeply rooted, but 9-11 has exposed how fragile our multiculturalism is."

Any change in these security measures will require a change in the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act, says Galloway. There are many reasons Galloway considers this unlikely.

"Politically it's not a good time. A minority government is unlikely to spend time and energy changing laws to protect non-citizens—it's not a way of winning elections," he said.

U.S. pressure is also a barrier to change, says Galloway. The U.S. has been critical of Canadian immigration policy since 9-11. As Canada's most important trading partner the U.S. can threaten significant economic and social consequences.

In response to the controversy over Canada's security legislation, the Canadian Bar Association has been pressing for the allowance of lawyers to hear the charges brought against people held under security certificates. This may lead to some improvement, Galloway says.

But many grassroots activist groups are unwilling to await change in these mainstream political channels.

The final documentary of the evening, *Take Back the Days: Step by Step to Ottawa*, followed a march from Montreal to Ottawa, co-ordinated by Solidarity Across Borders (SAB), a network of various refugee and immigrant groups. SAB has big demands: the end to detentions, deportations, and the abolishment of security certificates.

Groups like SAB argue for immigration legislation that addresses human rights instead of state rights.

Galloway supports this approach, and notes the irony of current security measures being adopted by nations like Canada.

"States assert sovereignty more and more often in a world where borders seem more and more meaningless," he said.

Program builds bridges for abused women

by Kurt Heinrich

Sequestered in a small room in the basement of the Empress hotel Oct. 12, a group of women gathered to celebrate and recognize the successes of recovering abused women.

It was a meeting for the Bridges for Women's Employability Program, a project founded in 1988 by a group of women interested in providing a training initiative for abused women. It has since developed into a full non-profit society. The program is 26 weeks long, and accepts up to 20 women at a time. The women come from a variety of backgrounds but share one thing in common—all are having difficulty finding stable employment and independence following past verbal, physical, and sexual abuse.

The goal of the program is simple: "To help [participants] get off welfare and bring themselves into the workforce," said Viki Prescott, a former UVic student and executive director of the Bridges society.

In order to do this, the society offers training in personal development, assertiveness training, conflict resolution, employment readiness skills, as well as counselling and resources to develop job search skills, computer literacy and to expose participants to a variety of potential career options.

Bridges for Women has recently expanded its operations and now offers an online program designed to reach isolated survivors in rural areas.

The online course is designed not only to aid women needing help but also to develop an even broader community of support.

This concept of community was critical to the development of the originals Bridges initiative and continues to be an important focus. "Community is a space of challenge and a space of hope," said Dr. Sheila Neysmith, who teaches in the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto. "Community allows safe spaces for women to discuss alternative ideas."

Bridges for Women has garnered a great deal of attention in its 17-year history. In 1999, it was one of the first programs to win the Building a Safer Future Award for its contribution to the struggle to end violence against women. In recent years it has won the local Quality of Life Award for its work towards sustainable lives for battered women.

This community acclaim, combined with the program's success rate—of the program's 74 graduates, 53 per cent have found full time work and 62 per cent have removed themselves from income assistance—has pushed Bridges into an international spotlight.

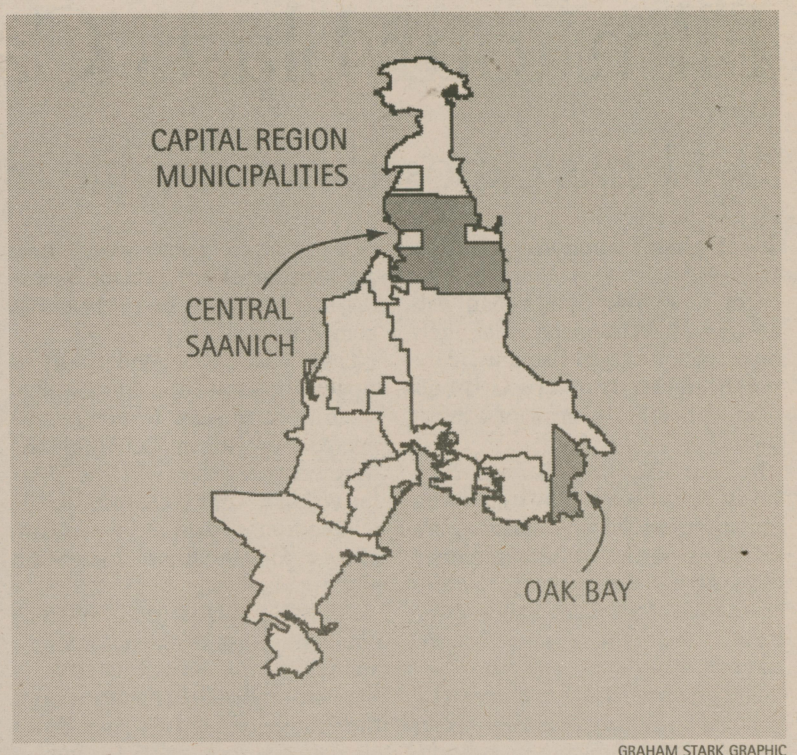
Several representatives of the program will visit Prague to aid in the development of a similar program in Czech Republic. As one enthusiastic board member remarked, "We're happy to expand and help people become more and more financially independent in their community."

For more information on Bridges for Women, visit www.bridgesforwomen.ca.

Healthcare schmelthcare! This guy can fix you up right.

AARON MCMILLAN PHOTO

Creative carpenter Joe Lord advertises his wide variety of skilled trades in front of his house on Sooke River Road.



GRAHAM STARK GRAPHIC

Watch for continuing coverage of municipal candidates and their mandates for change in the next issue before the Nov. 19 election. This week, the *Martlet* tracked down candidates from Oak Bay and Central Saanich.

Candidates – Part II

by Kim Armstrong

This week, the *Martlet* asked municipal candidates from Oak Bay and Central Saanich, "If elected, what will your number one priority be for change in your municipality?"

An '*' indicates an incumbent.

OAK BAY

Running for mayor

Incumbent Mayor Christopher Causton has been acclaimed for this position.

Running for Council (six positions available)

Hazel Braithwaite: "In light of recent events around the world . . . we have to collaborate closely with our surrounding communities to work together on a sound plan to implement in the event of a disaster."

Frank Carson*: "In my opinion, I don't think there is a number one priority or a single most important issue facing Oak Bay residents today."

Allan Cassidy*: "We don't need change so my number one priority would be to not meddle, to leave well enough alone."

Pamela Copley: "We need a vision for how we want our community to look in 50 or 100 years and public, community-wide planning guidelines which support that vision."

Nils Jensen*: "My number one priority is to make changes on the environmental front. We must broaden protection for our urban forest, move to safeguard species at risk at Uplands Park and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels in our municipal operations."

Nick Redding: "My number one priority would be to agitate against forced amalgamation with larger municipalities. Our councillors need to make a vocal stand on maintaining our independence...for Oak Bay."

Cmdr. (ret.) G. R. Telfer: "At Oak Bay City Hall we presently have four flagstaffs which are used daily. Not wishing to displace any of the existing flags, I will urge council to install a fifth flagstaff and to wear the Red Ensign next to the Maple Leaf flag on all occasions when the flags are hoisted . . . as a tribute to all veterans."

Unavailable for comment: **John Herbert*, Cheryle Scott, Elizabeth Sylvester.**

CENTRAL SAANICH

Running for mayor

Jack Mar: "Everybody wants to develop agricultural land for housing and I'm talking about keeping the agricultural land intact and to keep our district rural."

Unavailable for comment: **Allison Habkirk***

Running for council (six positions available)

Alastair Bryson: "My number one priority is to reconnect society and human activity with its place in nature . . . with a view towards seeking sustainability for humans on earth."

John Garrison: "I'd like to support the main agricultural base that Central Saanich has. I don't foresee any substantial change in our municipality."

Christopher Graham*: "My number one priority is properly addressing our looming facilities and infrastructure challenges while making sure we do it within our means."

Zeb King*: "The environment is key. At some point it's got to come down to the local issues . . . parks, Garry Oak ecosystems, energy efficiency retrofits to homes. We also need to improve relations with neighbouring First Nations."

Sue Stroud: "We have large numbers of families in need including young moms who would like to continue at Stelly's Secondary School but who are torn away from family, friends and their support network. Central Saanich needs to get its head out of the sand and build the [affordable] housing that will allow the grandchildren of our pioneers and First Nations to remain in the community they love."

Robert Thompson*: "My number one priority for change is to improve our decision-making on council. Good democratic process is protected by procedural rules that apply equally to all, in part to protect the expression of minority opinion. . . . Council has become pretty slack on following procedures in recent years."

Wayne Watkins: "I'm not sure that we are anticipating, expecting, planning any changes except to stay the course in our official community plan."

Unavailable for comment: **Mike Fagan, Susan Mason*.**

NEWS BRIEFS

UVic best in the West

The University of Victoria is the top comprehensive university in Western Canada in terms of research, according to the 2005 ranking of the country's universities by Research Infosource.

UVic placed third behind the University of Guelph and the University of Waterloo in the comprehensive university category.

The data to determine Canada's *Top 50 Research Universities 2005* and Research Universities of the Year 2005 drew on Statistics Canada and Research Infosource's Canadian university research and development database.

In determining the rankings, half the points awarded were based on financial indicator—total sponsored research income, research income per full-time faculty position, and research income per full-time graduate student. The other half was based on the number of publications per full-time faculty.

Pumpkin smash will help keep landfill levels low

The Greater Victoria Compost Education Centre (GVCEC), in partnership with Thrifty Foods, is encouraging Victoria residents to keep their pumpkins out of the trash and join them at the Pumpkin Smash.

On Friday, Nov. 4 at noon at the Cloverdale-Quadra Thrifty Foods, the public is invited to come and toss their leftover Halloween jack-o-lanterns into a giant Smash compost bin.

The bin will also be open and accepting "donations" on Nov. 5 and 6 between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

GVCEC estimates the Smash will prevent some 120,000 pumpkins from being entombed in landfills.

Telus contract voted down by 53 votes

Members of the Telecommunications Workers Union voted 50.3 per cent in favour of rejecting a contract offer from Telus Oct. 31. The proposed contract was backed by union executives.

Only 65 per cent of the union's members cast ballots in the vote. Telus insists it has no intention of returning to the bargaining table, while union members are holding meetings to decide what to do next.

The workers have been off the job since July 21.

–compiled by Kate Webb

Students may tip sewage scale, says activist

by Melanie Greene and Bryna Hallam

University of Victoria students may hold the key in this municipal election to getting sewage treatment in Victoria.

Most students—including those in the university's residences—live in Saanich, explains Matt Price of the Conservation Voters of BC (CVBC).

And Saanich, with five of the 14 seats on the Capital Regional District (CRD) core area liquid waste management committee, holds more seats than any other municipality.

This, says Price, means that if Saanich residents elect councillors on Nov. 19 who want sewage treatment, there's a good chance it might happen.

"The interesting thing about municipal elections is that the margin of difference between candidates is in the hundreds," said Price. If students vote for pro-sewage treatment candidates, he says, they could "tip the council" in that direction.

CVBC is a non-profit, non-partisan group that tracks the environmental performance of B.C.'s elected officials and supports the candidacy of environmentally minded candidates for office.

Because Saanich and Victoria hold the most seats on the CRD board, the group is focusing on those two municipalities, with candidates' commitment to secondary sewage treatment as the key issue.

The group has endorsed a number of candidates based on their support for secondary sewage treatment and the viability of their campaign.

Currently, Victoria's sewage is dumped raw, directly into the ocean at two outfall points.

In 2000, the CRD implemented the Liquid Waste Management Program (LWMP), a 25-year plan to study how to reduce inflow and infiltration of sewage at minimal costs and how to reduce overflow of sewage into the ocean to acceptable levels.

"This is a dead-end study only guaranteeing a study of the situation," says Jim McIsaac, clean water director for the T. Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation. "There's no commitment to obtain land for secondary or better treatment. By the expiry of LWMP, all of the available land will be used and we'll be in a tight situation with nowhere to put a treatment centre."

Victoria Mayor Alan Lowe, who also sits on the CRD Board of Directors, says if he is elected for another term, a secondary treatment centre is a possibility.

"I've met with the new federal Minister of Environment, Stephane Dion," said Lowe. "His intent is that all cities have secondary treatment."

Although Lowe has not yet met with Barry Penner, the B.C. Minister of Environment, he said he has "a good rapport with both federal and provincial governments, so funding [for a secondary treatment centre] is plausible."

"The City of Victoria needs to move forward with all three levels of government co-operating for secondary treatment of sewage," Lowe said. "Halifax and St. John's got funding, so Victoria has good grounds to ask for it."

James Skwarok, who is also known as eight-foot turd mascot Mr. Floatie, is cautiously optimistic about Lowe's intent to treat.

"Alan Lowe has recently come out of the 'water closet' and said we could use secondary treatment," he says, also assuring taxpayers that "federal and provincial governments are going to be contributing funds, it's not like it's all going to be coming out of our pockets."

Lowe has recognized a need for a secondary treatment centre, but Victoria Civic Electors candidate Ben Isitt thinks this recognition may have come too late.

An Oct. 21 press release quotes Isitt as saying, "Alan Lowe has had six years to end the dumping of raw sewage into the Juan de Fuca Strait. Victorians deserve a mayor committed to action rather than talk."

Mr. Floatie, a self-pronounced sewage treatment advocate, had been running for mayor of Victoria, but had his nomination challenged successfully under the Local Government Act Oct. 18.

Rob Woodland, corporate administrator for the city, said Mr. Floatie "swore solemn declarations on nomination papers, not in a legal signature," and added this was contrary to the Local Government Act.

Woodland was referring to the autograph he found on Mr. Floatie's nomination documents, which apparently was not his legal signature. He says he advised Mr. Floatie to sign as James Skwarok, but that the mascot "chose not to accept advice on how to run without being challenged."

"I knew they were going to contest," said Skwarok in response to the city's challenge. "I knew I could never win as Mr. Floatie. I didn't want to win."

What he did want was some positive attention for People Opposed to Outfall Pollution (POOP), the environmental advocacy group behind Mr. Floatie. POOP is a group dedicated to educating the public about problems related to the dumping of raw sewage into the ocean, as well as trying to raise funds for a sewage treatment centre."We at POOP would like to take a precautionary approach [to sewage treatment], before it's too late," Skwarok said.

At the very least, POOP and other sewage treatment advocacy groups such as the T. Buck Suzuki Environmental Foundation want secondary treatment for Victoria's sewage waste, which would break down sewage into less harmful substances such as carbon dioxide.

Visit the POOP website at www.poopvictoria.ca

WILLIE LI PHOTO

Mr. Floatie, a Victoria mascot and former mayoral candidate advocating sewage treatment, looks out at the Clover Point outfall, one of two outfalls where Victoria's sewage is pumped into the ocean.

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Editorial

War is hell on earth

"Annihilation of the spirit. The game does not appear to be worth the candle. What is seen through the explosions is that this, no less than any other war, is not a moral war. Greek against Greek, against Persian, Roman against the world, cowboys against Indians, Catholics against Protestants, black men against white—this is merely the current phase of an historical story. It is war, and to believe it is anything but a lot of people killing each other is to pretend it is something else, and to misread man's instinct to commit murder."

–Neil McCallum, British Officer and veteran of the Second World War

On November 11, Canadians will once again pause and remember those who served in the two World Wars, the Korean War and the peacekeeping missions Canada has participated in during its brief time as a nation state.

We will once again read and hear the usual rhetoric: how Canadian veterans fought for liberty, for peace, for the future, for you and I and the freedoms we all now so obviously take for granted. Ordinary Canadians made extraordinary sacrifices, we will again be told, they laid it on the line for what they believed and over 100,000 paid the price and never returned from their foreign battlefields. Remember them, we will be commanded, lest their sacrifice be in vain.

Let's cut the crap. Remember this simple cliché instead: war is hell. The usual Remembrance Day rhetoric of sacrifice, idealism and selflessness lends an undeserved sheen to what can only be described as the most soiled latrine in the repertoire of human experience.

War is an abuse of humanity and nature. On Remembrance Day we should reflect on its horrors, mourn those who have been devoured and maimed by it, and vow never to repeat, support or participate in such an exercise in mass insanity.

Yes, remember the veterans. Remember the tens of thousands who died at Ypres, Passchendaele, Dieppe and Hong Kong.

Remember that their sacrifices were not extraordinary, but ordinary—soldiers are cannon fodder, and their deaths in droves are a predictable outcome of war.

Remember that it is youthful energy and naiveté that allows a young mind to convince itself that it is immune to a machine gun bullet or heavy artillery shell, this coupled with the old hollow exhortations by society to defend peace, freedom and the motherland that prompted many to sign up. The great lie is that war is a great adventure, an escape from pedestrian every day life, when in fact its reality more closely resembles an abattoir for humanity for those unfortunate enough to experience actual combat.

Remember also that the greatest victims of modern wars are not the soldiers, but non-combatants—those sickeningly referred to today as "collateral damage"—which include everyone from infants to the elderly. Of the estimated 70 million deaths caused by the Second World War, over 70 per cent—55 million—were civilians.

In Iraq today the most conservative estimates place Iraqi non-combatant deaths at 27,000, compared to 2,000 American combat dead. These figures don't include those non-combatants who were maimed, both physically and mentally, by war. Most civilian survivors never receive veteran's pensions, preferential treatment when applying for government jobs, or vanity license plates for their participation, albeit unwilling, in war.

War begets only two things: death and more war. It is an open door for all that is bad in humanity, allowing the sadists, racists, rapists, desk murderers and sociopaths opportunity to act on their twisted impulses.

The Holocaust, My Lai, Dresden, the Somme, Hiroshima and the petty brutalities of Abu Ghraib are the flowers of war, and should be considered when we pin a poppy on our collars on Remembrance Day.

So on Remembrance Day, and everyday, reflect on the horror of war, and have contempt for those apologists of war who demand more money for weapons and greater involvement in foreign conflicts.

You can be sure that these warmongers will not be doing the shooting and the dying in any future war, although they will certainly be pulling the strings.

Editorial topics are decided at weekly editorial meetings and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of all staff members.

edit@martlet.ca

EDITORIAL CARTOON | INDIE-SANITY

ANTHONY FRATTAROLI GRAPHIC

LETTERS

China rally corrections

I'd like to thank you for publishing the story ("Groups protest Chinese Communist Party's history of abuses," Oct. 27) on the "Freedom for China" rally held at City Hall recently, but there are a few things that need to be clarified.

Professor Wu Guogang implies that resignations from the Communist Youth League or the Young Pioneers are not of any significance. However, these organizations belong to the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and are therefore quite significant.

Also, the writer of the article used the word "alleged" when referring to the 5 million resignations. In fact, 90 per cent of the resignations have been posted from Mainland China via the DynaWeb proxy network to bypass the CCP's Internet blockade. Five million is probably a conservative number, considering many do not have access to the Internet and have posted their resignations on public notice boards.

Concerning the statement that human rights abuses in China today lack the scope of Mao's destructive policies, I do not believe that this justifies the persecution of Falun Gong, Christians, and Tibetans that permeates the society. The torture methods used in China's labor camps and brainwashing centers are horrific beyond description.

Lastly, I'd like to mention that we're not asking that Canada halt trade with China, as the writer stated in the last paragraph of the article. Rather, we are suggesting that Canadian businesses exercise caution because when the CCP falls—as we believe will happen in the not-too-distant future—all those investments will be lost.

–Matthew Simon

More rally corrections

I read Kurt Heinrich's article ("Groups protest Chinese Communist Party's history of abuses," Oct. 27) in your last issue and I find it ambiguous. I would like to shed some light on a couple of things.

First of all, Falun Gong is not a religious sect. It is a meditation practice based on the moral values of Truth-Compassion-Tolerance. Practitioners do not have a political agenda—they basically support the human rights of the practitioners who are persecuted in China (and elsewhere) by the CCP.

Secondly, *the Epoch Times is* not sponsored by Falun Gong but it is an independent international media. However, the rally was sponsored by *the Epoch Times.*

Thirdly, Huang Huahua is the Governor of Guandong Province and I'd like to add that he was served with papers on the ferry to Victoria last week for torture and crimes against humanity and his participation in the persecution of Falun Gong.

Thanks to the *Martlet* for reporting on this important event/rally.

–Marie Beaulieu

Ben Isitt calls UVic elitist

I'm very disappointed in Ben Isitt's comments in the Oct. 19 Camosun student newspaper, *Nexus*, that suggest he disrespects UVic students.

"Camosun is a really big priority for me because it is close to the city," says Isitt, "and it is less elitist than UVic and has the type of people who I am looking for."

I've been a student at both Camosun and at UVic, and the students I was with at Camosun were no more or less elitist than at UVic. Why would Isitt make such disparaging comments about our UVic students?

–John Newcomb

Hey jerks with the fire alarms!

Almost every student living in residence has by now been fortunate enough to suffer through a fire alarm. They may have even been fortunate enough to have gone through two or three.

The alarms seem contagious, spreading from one building to the next, every other weekend.

In one of the first weeks at school the fire alarm went off in my building for the first time. I recall before the fire alarm hearing the merry pitter patter of not so little feet running down the hall, followed by a loud ringing just outside my door.

The fire alarms only make up a piece of the whole issue. Every weekend fresh holes appear in residence walls and new stains on the carpets.

I am at a loss as to why you would pull the fire alarm for anything short of a fire. Maybe I am old fashioned and haven't seen the trendy nature of loud noises or the style of standing cold outside at one in the morning. However, if you don't think that this is a problem for residences and that we should just lighten up, then obviously you have a far better sense of humour than me.

–Michael Miller

Do you agree or disagree with something you've read?
On a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is strongly agree and 5 is strongly disagree, subtract 7, divide by 8 and solve for x.
Then tell us. Write letters to the *Martlet.*
edit@martlet.ca

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The homeless lose shelter once again

'It's important to periodically question the structure of our society'

by Melanie Greene

When the *Times Colonist* reported that the tent city at Cridge Park was ripped down, it was with a story about how calmly the police enforced the court order.

It reported how most of the "homeless, street kids, druggies, drunks, and drifters" left quietly, except for a woman "ranting" about this travesty of justice. She must have been "ranting" because there has been no travesty here.

Justice has been obtained—those dirty, drunken druggies have gone back to wherever they came from and now we can get to work without having to be bothered by the stinking human garbage dump infesting our park. It's not their park but ours, right?

I'm not so sure about this conclusion. I guess whether or not justice has been served really depends on which side of the issue you look at. So, where are both sides represented, who has the louder voice, and who's listening?

A police officer told me that six people said it was their choice to live in tent city. Well, he finds that a little hard to swallow, and why shouldn't he? How dare someone think about life, society and options, and then make a choice about it? How dare anyone decide not to be a drone alongside the thoughtless, overbusy society we live in? How could a person decide to forget financial burdens, forget distractions like school, work, and television, and forget that some may look down on them as a social parasite for choosing freedom?

The *Times Colonist* can't bother to mention something like, "Today is the day that police officers will move into the tent city, rip down the residents' homes and make them homeless once again." Perhaps this is why no one else noticed either, why there was no uproar about the tent city being ripped down.

Does everyone agree with the court order disallowing any person from erecting a tent, or portion of a tent, anywhere in Victoria? It is reasonable that tent cities can't just pop up in parks all over town. There do have to be some rules to keep society from becoming an anarchist free-for-all. The campers did request a designated area close to downtown where they could camp legally—of course, this request was not granted.

There aren't enough beds in shelters for all the homeless in the city, so we really are just sending them back to the gutter. The tent city campers do still exist and they still take up space in the world.

But now that they don't take up space on the front page of the paper it seems like they'll drop off the face of the earth.

Perhaps our thoughts are directed not just by the *Times Colonist*, but by the media in general. We're disconnected from the deeper issues surrounding events like the tent city eviction, and are overly connected to "reality" as portrayed on Fox. The question of whether or not the decision about the tent city was a just one was never asked. No one questioned the fairness of placing people back on the streets to fend for themselves without any community to be a part of.

It's important to periodically question the structure of our society in order to keep it in check. We are all citizens of the world and I think we all have a right to decide how to live our lives. In our society we get so wrapped up in our own little bubbles of self-consciousness that we can't see beyond the details of our own lives.

I see a group like the tent city campers and can't help wondering if they've got the right idea—forget student loans, forget working in an office for 40 years, and forget that society expects me to get in line and follow along single file.

It might be nice to wake up every day and not have a ton of stressful obligations that I can no longer remember any good reason for obliging to in the first place. I might not erect a tent downtown, but I won't scowl at those who do.

Bisexuality is not 'just a phase'

'Many people believe bisexuals are only halfway along in their journey of self-discovery'

by Hilary Graham, *The Argosy*

SACKVILLE, N.B. (CUP) — Gays in denial, attention-seeking, promiscuous and trendy: these are the stereotypes of bisexuals, but none are anywhere near the truth. Though they are by definition accepting of everyone, bisexuals are often discriminated against and belittled.

The gay community is used to ridicule and discrimination, and that is why resources are available to help people cope. There are others in the same situation to talk with and relate to.

But though many gays advocate open-mindedness and acceptance within the community, this does not always extend to everyone. Bisexuality is often scorned and passed off as fake.

Many people believe bisexuals are only halfway along in their journey of self-discovery. Instead of acceptance, many accuse bisexuals of not knowing who they are yet, implying that they are too ashamed to come out in front of the world about being gay.

Those that are part of the gay community will judge a bisexual person before they know him or her, and just decide that he or she is trying to hold onto one last piece of normality before finally deciding to go all the way and come out.

On the other end of the spectrum, bisexuals are not widely accepted into heterosexual society either. No matter what one's orientation, there are many people who say bisexuality is all about getting attention.

A large number of boys seem to enjoy the thought of a bisexual girl who is likely to be more interesting and perhaps open to new and different experiences. When one hears the word bisexual, it is normal to first think of promiscuity. It is a common thought that people become bisexual because they are oversexed, and need it from anywhere they can get it.

But this is a myth. The average everyday bisexual is no hornier than anyone else—they just are able to fall for people of either sex. They too can have monogamous relationships, and do not always need multiple partners at the same time.

The worst thing to happen to bisexuality is that it has become a trend. There are many people who do lie about their sexuality to get attention from the opposite sex. This fraud is really hurting the ability to be taken seriously when one is really bi.

It is very common to see homosexual acts at parties in front of groups of people. Some people may find it funny or sexy, but many people find it offensive. It is ridiculing people who are just different than the social norm, people who cannot help the way they are.

And bisexuality is not just a sexual thing, as most people believe, but it is about being able to fall in love with a person for his or her personality. Bisexuals do not let gender get in the way of whom and how they want to love.

If a woman is bisexual, and has only had male partners, it does not mean she will never have a girlfriend. It does not mean she is trying to attract attention by admitting her bisexuality, and she should not have to prove to people that she likes girls.

Just like being straight or homosexual, bisexuality cannot be helped. It is not a choice.

Being bisexual is an amazing concept. It is hard to understand why people so accepting can be ridiculed, discriminated against and disbelieved.

Is it really so impossible for someone to love another person just for being them?

Charter of Rights defends everyone

'Karp's article assumes everyone deserves the same consequences as murderers'

by Michelle Levesque

The entire raison d'être for the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms is to protect everybody's rights and freedoms. That would be undermined if criminals did not have equal rights.

"A good Charter of Rights defends the rights of citizens to life, liberty and security, and not the rights of criminals," wrote David Karp in "Charter of Rights has become absurd" (Oct. 20).

The Charter states all Canadians have the right to innocence until proven guilty. If the premise is to afford rights only to the innocent as argued in Karp's piece, how can the innocence of an accused be determined before a trial? Wouldn't this pose a problem for people who are innocent, but wrongly convicted?

There's a good reason the Ontario man charged with spousal assault wasn't brought up on charges for child pornography. During the investigation, the police searched the man's computer for pornographic pictures of children.

Why wasn't he charged for owning these pictures? The charge of possessing child pornography was unrelated to the assault charge. The police didn't have reasonable grounds to search for pornography in an assault situation. The judge was upholding the accused's right not to be subject to an unreasonable search.

The article also refers to Robin Sharpe, who was acquitted by the B.C. Supreme Court for possessing stories of child pornography he had written.

These stories were acquitted on the basis on artistic merit and freedom of expression.

What one does in his or her own mind is not an offence unless it harms someone else.

Robin Sharpe's stories maybe available over the Internet now, but they were unpublished when the police seized them.

Karp's article also assumes all criminals deserve the same consequence as murderers: losing one's right to vote. This is illogical. Punishment has to be proportional to the crime.

Perhaps in extreme cases such as murder, the felon shouldn't have the right to vote. But a shoplifter shouldn't have his right to vote removed, especially if his socio-economic circumstances push him to shoplift.

The Charter serves as a check on the balance of power. It is the supreme law of the land. It ensures that politicians are not abusing their power and pass just laws for the benefit of everyone without treating the few unfairly.

"Judges" are not overruling the laws implemented by the "democratically elected" Parliament. Judges are interpreting a Charter formulated by those in Parliament. Besides, the politicians can overrule a judge's interpretation by using the notwithstanding clause in the Charter.

Thanks to the Charter, Canadians live in a more democratic and free society. Aren't we fortunate to live in a country that has protected rights without discrimination? Common sense isn't absent from the Charter. Common sense *is* the Charter.

Does the *Martlet* make you angry?
Big whoop, wanna fight about it?
Write opinions for the *Martlet*.
oped@martlet.ca

Potlucks, Avril Lavigne and making Victoria g

Victoria's prospective mayors on what the youngsters want

by Micah Luxen and Becky Michaluk

One might think there's a conspiracy to keep youngsters out of municipal politics.

Anyone who's been to a city meeting lately (uh-huh, right), may have noticed that it's mostly silverbacks, and there's pretty much no one under 30 in sight.

If you attended public school as a Gen X-er or even better, as a Gen Y-er, you probably didn't learn an ounce about local government.

Say you went to university and majored in political science, same thing: it's not part of the curriculum. In fact, if you want to work in community politics, it's probably better for your reputation if you don't have some high-falutin' poli sci degree. Better to major in economics or geography, or to spend your time learning about issues that a city has to deal with.

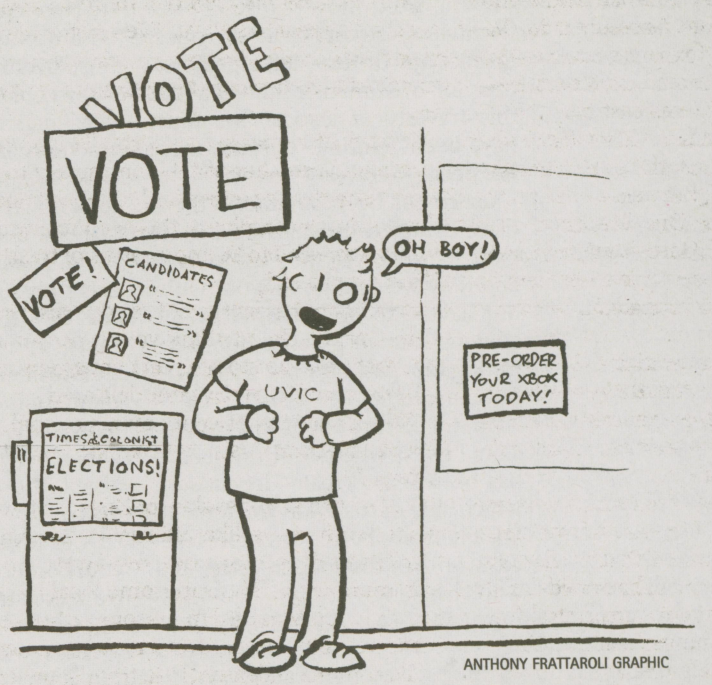
When you call up city hall and ask what the mayor and councilors actually do, they respond as though you are playing a trick. The public relations person refers you to the city's website. There, after half a day of reading the minutes from past meetings, it can be deduced that the mayor and councilors vote on issues ranging from animal control to homelessness, from a zero-tolerance graffiti plan to a strategy to reduce greenhouse gasses by investing in bio-diesel.

If you haven't been reading the local papers for the past year, it isn't clear from the web site that Victoria dumps its raw sewage into the Strait of Juan de Fuca, that there is a major homelessness problem or that the city does not actually have an official downtown plan.

We all know the municipal elections are coming up, right? So where are the forums where mayoral and councillor candidates can discuss issues or platforms? In order to learn the basics of municipal politics, you must keep up with your local newspaper or watch the A-Channel for forums that will never have enough time to give all candidates a voice (even for one municipality). Probably the best way to learn about the candidates is to telephone or e-mail each one to ask about his/her platform.

No one is making it easy to get involved in local politics.

Originally, this article was supposed to be about the lack of youth voting in municipal elections. We admit we were influenced by the mainstream media of the past few years lamenting the decline of democracy. According to Elections Canada, only about 22 per cent of voters aged 18–24 came out to vote in the 2004 federal election. We thought we could do a better job than the government stiffs and their embarrassing attempts ("Get Your Vote On" and its use of text-messaging a la Canadian Idol).



ANTHONY FRATTAROLI GRAPHIC

Except we discovered there are no statistics for youth voting in municipal elections. All anyone knows for sure is that in Victoria, only 31.33 per cent of all registered voters actually voted in the last municipal election. (A registered voter is anyone who has lived in Victoria for at least 30 days and in B.C. for at least six months.).

As youth ourselves, we maintain the suspicion that most people in the 18–30 age group don't vote in municipal elections. Many UVic students we talked to verified that suspicion. We interviewed some Victoria mayoral candidates, who each had their own strategies to garner the youth vote. In the process, we actually learned something about municipal politics.

According to the babes themselves, voter apathy is just one of the factors for lack of youth at the ballots. For the most part, the young people interviewed argued they were unaware of the politics going on around them.

"Until my women's studies class the other night, I didn't even know the there were municipal elections," said Courtney Mosley, a fourth year UVic student. "Because I don't read newspapers enough, I think I won't be voting— I don't really know what's going on right now."

Emily Pariseau, a 21-year-old UVic student, agrees.

"We're in this little bubble. We're not exposed to the world—except for those few activists who pursue political information—so we're just not really aware of the issues."

Michael Nussbacher, a UVic political science student, suggests the current cultural climate is a factor.

"For young people today there are so many issues, but they don't seem to be very political," he said. "We are seeing a generation that is less interested in what's happening around them unless it's a natural disaster."

Nussbacher sees the self-absorption of youth today to be a major cause of voter apathy but doesn't blame them.

"Perhaps many of us youth just don't want to get our heads around [politics] for fear it will interfere with our social lives," he said.

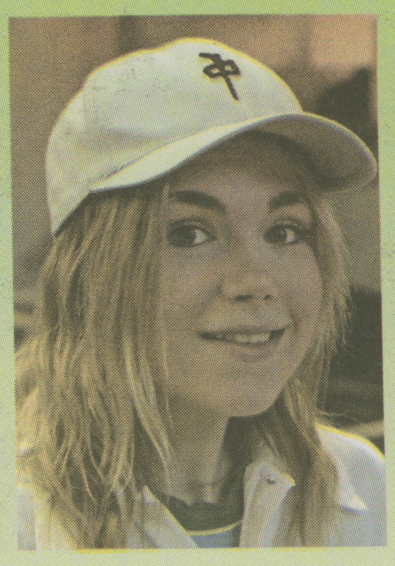
But young people can be very passionate.

"I'd vote if something pissed me off," said Mosley. "What we need are anti-violence campaigns—young people want someone to be there for them and having someone to talk to is very important."

2004 Student Vote, co-sponsored by Elections Canada, was one initiative that tried to raise youth awareness of

Emilie Januszewski
Second year, professional writing

It's hard to know about local issues if you're not from Victoria. I think the university does more for us than municipal politics.



Liz Barry
Second year, sociology

I know more about U.S. politics. I don't really take notice of anything that goes on in my own general area.

Leah Maxwell
Third year, commerce

Not enough for me to apply to my life. I don't know a lot about politics.

a green:

oting. Secondary schools across Canada had the option o take part in a mock federal vote. The results for Vicoria suggested something local politicians seem to have icked up on: youth in Victoria care about the environnent. While there were only 145 votes cast by particiating Victoria students, compared to 58,212 valid adult otes in the Victoria electoral district, the students gave ne Green Party 40.7 per cent of their votes.

Victoria city mayoral candidate Diana Smardon says he knows that many young adults aren't informed of ne issues, but she also says that the people who run for ffice have not been appealing to young adults—somening she hopes to change.

"For instance, Terasen wants to privatize their water nd this is actually an issue that affects the youth with uture vocations . . . I think that the green issues are the ost important for [young adults]— to know that we're oing to have clean water, clean air."

Smardon says there needs to be a crossover of issues om municipal to provincial in Victoria. "If you get a rong enough municipal government that is all grassoots, you can effect policies provincially and federally o, so ask city council to support you in wanting to lowr tuition or try to provide more housing," she said.

Finding affordable and reasonable housing is an issue nportant to young people, she says.

The current mayor, Alan Lowe, said that during his ampaign, he will be reaching out to youth by encouragng his son, a first-year UVic student, and all of his iends to support him.

"I believe sustainability and the environment have beome huge issues for the youth of today. In addition, uality of life—entertainment—is important to them. ver the past year, we opened the Save-on-Foods lemorial Centre and the events at the facility have been ore than successful.

Our youth no longer will have to go to Vancouver or eattle to watch concerts, and spend money on the fer and hotel accommodation. We can now enjoy those vents right here at home," he said.

Gregory Hartnell, another mayoral candidate, says if e could nail down one reason why the majority of outh don't vote—it's that they probably get distracted y daily concerns and the bombardment of mass media. "For example, videos on TV and the advertising are nstantly encouraging them to go out and be mindless nsumers. That's part of the problem. And I guess candates such as myself are challenging the status quo," he id.

Hartnell is an advocate of lowering the voting age. Once the habit is developed, it's hard to kick," he said.

Hartnell says his vision of a more-compassionate Victoria will appeal to youth. "We really need to pay attention to the poor amongst us. I'm referring of course to the hundreds of people begging on the streets of Victoria."

As part of his campaign, Hartnell says he has been encouraging members of the community to get to know each other by organizing potlucks and times of sharing. "I'm trying to emphasize the need for local family culture as opposed to the importation of trash culture from different places."

Candidate Ben Isitt, at 27 the youngest mayoral candidate, says he doesn't think young people are apathetic but that they want to see real changes in society and so far, most politicians have not delivered.

"Only about ten per cent of young people vote in municipal elections," Isitt estimated, "and that's got to change."

"We're trying to develop policies that will appeal to youth, with things like affordable housing, affordable transit, [and] encouraging employers to pay a higher minimum wage. Those are some local issues I'm focusing on . . . provincially I'm a strong advocate of the elimination of tuition fees, stronger grants rather than loans."

Like other candidates, Isitt thinks environmental issues are important to youth, who he believes are generally more environmentally minded.

"Youth are open to new ideas because they haven't become jaded by society and I think youth are open to possibility of public policy that offers real solutions for society in the long term," he said.

As Elections Canada increases its research on youth voting, its findings say cynicism of the political system is not one of the major factors in lack of youth voting. The top factors are an increased tendency toward political apathy, lack of political knowledge, a weaker sense of civic duty, personal and administrative factors (i.e. too busy) and lastly, that candidates are not contacting or appealing to youth.

Meanwhile, there are alternative views to questioning youth participation altogether.

"Many young people are very active in participatory democratic politics—social movement politics, cultural politics, and so on, so we need to take arguments about apathy with a grain of salt and ask why social movements matter to many people more than parties do," said UVic Canadian politics professor Dr. James Lawson.

"That's also a reminder that democracy is more than marking an 'x' on a ballot paper, as crucial as voting is."

Municipal elections throughout B.C. are scheduled to take place Nov. 19, between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

ALL YOU NEED TO VOTE:

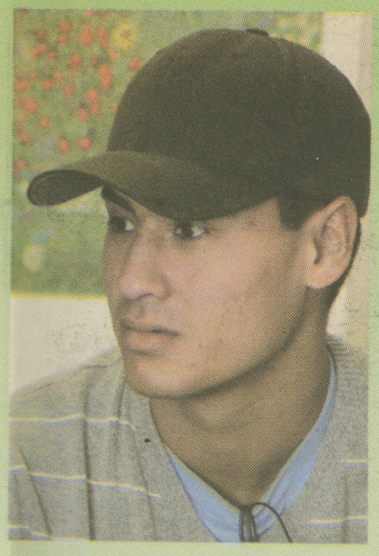
- You must have lived in B.C. for the past six months.
- You must be 18-years-old on voting day.
- You must have lived in your municipality for at least 30 days.
- You must have two pieces of ID with your signature on at least one. If you don't have any ID, you can sign a declaration at the polling station saying you are a resident.
- You must have lived in your municipality for at least 30 days.
- If you have never voted before (or only voted in a Federal election), you have to register at the polling station when you go to vote.

WHERE TO VOTE:

These are the municipal electoral districts for greater Victoria and the websites that will tell you where to vote:

- Central Saanich, www.centralsaanich.ca
- Colwood, www.city.colwood.bc.ca
- Esquimalt, www.esquimalt.ca
- Highlands, www.highlands.bc.ca
- Langford, www.district.langford.bc.ca
- Metchosin, www.district.metchosin.bc.ca
- North Saanich, www.northsaanich.ca
- Oak Bay, www.oakbaybc.org
- Saanich, www.gov.saanich.bc.ca
- Sidney, www.sidney.ca
- Sooke, www.district.sooke.bc.ca
- View Royal, www.town.viewroyal.bc.ca
- Victoria, www.city.victoria.bc.ca

If you are unsure of what municipality you live in, call the Legislative Services at (250) 361-057

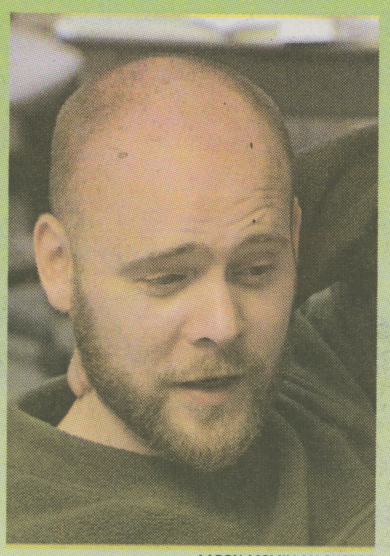


Alex Chang
Third year, Pacific/Asian studies

I don't really follow municipal politics but they affect me in indirect ways; property taxes go to the municipal government so that would affect my rent.

Jonny Milstein
Fourth year, psychology

I have no idea; they don't serve any purpose. I haven't been affected as far as I know by any recent change in municipal politics.



AARON MCMILLAN PHOTOS

Ed Baskerville
Fourth year, writing

I don't think municipal politics have a lot of fiscal power. They more administrate the funding they get from the province so I don't think it matters who fills that position.

Managing your schedule means more time to sleep

by Kim Armstrong

BRYNA HALLAM PHOTO

Doesn't this look more inviting than your textbooks and desk?

I just received a card from my pillows telling me they missed me and they hoped I'd come home soon.

In the last two weeks, the nights I've been able to grab more than five hours of sleep can be counted, to quote an eminent British author, on the fingers of one head.

I am not alone in my predicament. Each day the students staggering past me in the halls get greyer and more glassy-eyed. Pyjama bottoms are becoming the clothing of choice. Forget bird flu. The biggest epidemic sweeping the student population is sheer exhaustion.

It's a sad truth that, for most university students, getting enough sleep is about as rare as finding a guy who looks good in a Speedo. There are many reasons for this. Most are valid, several are unavoidable, and a few are just unpleasant.

Midterm season is the latest major reason for the widespread snore deficiency, and fits all three of these descriptions. Wading through stacks of notes, often hurriedly and messily written, is time-consuming and piled on top of homework assignments and other commitments. The rush to cram six weeks' worth of course work into a brain already overloaded with up to five other subjects causes stress— a significant reason for loss of downtime, as students get too keyed up to be able to sleep deeply.

Caffeine, a staple in late-night study sessions, contributes to the problem as well. As students, myself included, find themselves staying up later and later in order to fit in all the review they have to do, it gets progressively harder to stay aware enough to function.

Caffeine provides that extra kick to keep us awake, but the downside is that the drug doesn't stop working when schoolwork is done. Many caffeine addicts—and that's most of us, admit it—have spent nights becoming intimately acquainted with the cracks in our bedroom ceilings.

In addition, a lot of students hold part time or full time jobs. Trying to fit classes and homework around a work schedule can be tough. However, funding optional extras such as food and clothing keeps us trapped in the working world. Increasing loans to cover living expenses while in school can be an option if you're is looking to cut back on that nasty employment habit, but the resulting larger debts have to be factored into this equation. For some, it may not be worth the hassle.

Those in residence have an advantage over students living off campus, as travel time doesn't have to be factored in when setting the alarm. Catching the bus to school can be a bother, as schedules aren't always convenient, and anyone who has to transfer buses ends up with at least twice the hassle.

But res students have to deal with problems of their own. There's always someone who fails to realize that blaring music at three in the morning isn't the best way to make friends. Noisy neighbours seriously cut into sleeping time.

Many people consider parties, and socializing in general, to be a criminal waste of a student's time, especially if said student has assignments due and tests to study for. I disagree. Life at university is stressful. Steam builds up. Partying provides a necessary outlet for pent up tension, which, if ignored, can end up causing burnout and various unpleasant health issues.

Partying must be handled with care, though. Spending every night getting hammered is a sure-fire recipe for a report card full of pretty red Fs. This is a bad thing. Moderation is key.

So what can students do to prevent sleep deprivation? Unfortunately, not a whole heck of a lot.

The sad fact is that the average full-time student needs several extra hours in the day to be able to complete all required tasks and still get enough rest. That being said, there are ways to better manage your schedule that can help shave at least a few minutes off time spent not sleeping.

Keep track of upcoming deadlines. Just a few minutes a day spent working on upcoming projects can help prevent a frantic all night rush.

Carry your notes with you, so spare moments can be used for quick review, and nights can be used for hibernation.

Organize. Knowing where your notes are and how much you actually have to know ups the efficiency of study sessions considerably.

Finally, scope out the available couches on campus, and use longer breaks between classes to nap. Trust me, every little bit helps.

RECIPE

Cooking to impress: Salmon alfredo

by Ford Walker

A Northwest twist on an Italian favourite, salmon complements the flavours of parmesan nicely.

The following is a quick and easy recipe that always impresses guests. However, richness and a high fat content is the price for outstanding flavour and ease of cooking.

Many items can be substituted for those on a budget.

Ingredients

1 clove garlic, chopped or smashed
1 clove shallot, chopped or smashed
1/4 onion, (red or white) chopped
1/2 tsp. crushed red peppers
2 tsp. olive or vegetable oil
1/2 pound of salmon
2 tbsp. parmesano regiano
1 cup milk
flour to thicken
salt and pepper to taste
basil and oregano

Note: The fresh salmon can be replaced with the canned variety; the parmesano regiano with the Kraft variety; and the shallot clove/basil/oregano can be done away with entirely. Furthermore, for those that cannot handle the heat, the peppers can also be left out.

Instructions

1. Heat pan over medium high heat. After a minute or so, place oil in pan and wait a thirty seconds to warm the oil up. Place garlic, shallots, onions and peppers in pan. Stir frequently to avoid burning. Garlic burns very quickly, so do not leave the stovetop. For those who like their garlic spicy, traditional Italian cooks do not caramelize their garlic, instead adding it with the herbs in the last step.

2. Once garlic and shallots have caramelized (turned golden), add the salmon. The adding of such an ingredient will drop the surface temperature of the pan, stopping the garlic and shallots from burning.

3. If using fresh salmon, cook until tan. If canned, you can immediately jump to the next step. Now is a great time to season your mixture with the salt and pepper.

4. Add the milk and cheese. These two ingredients combine to form the alfredo sauce. Stir the mixture around, allowing the cheese to melt and mix with the milk. If your sauce is too thick, add a bit of milk; too thin, add a pinch of flour to thicken it.

HOWEVER: be forewarned about putting too much flour in your sauce—it can create a solid goop that no amount of milk will break. Starch is a bitch that way.

5. As a last step, add some herbs. My favourites are the traditional Italian ones, oregano and basil. No matter which ones you choose, the addition of herbs add a nice accent to the sauce.

While fresh herbs are preferable, who can afford those? Dried herbs aren't as good but are definitely easy on the wallet.

Serve over pasta (cooked of course), maybe with a side of garlic toast. I prefer penne, but any type of pasta will work.

Rice pasta is a good choice because it will balance out the fat in the sauce. Furthermore, rice pasta is no longer as mushy as it was ten years ago and will reach a lovely state of al dente.

This recipe is meant to serve two, though this completely depends on the amount of pasta made and the sauce portion could be stretched to serve six.

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Unless gets lost in translation

Carol Shields' complex novel makes the leap to theatre and breaks an ankle on the landing

What: Carol Shield's *Unless*
Where: The Belfry Theatre, 1291 Gladstone
When: Until Nov. 20
How much: $18 to $33

by Briony Smith

A middle-aged woman struggles with the fact that her daughter, for no apparent reason, has taken up sitting on a cold Toronto street-corner with a sign that reads "goodness" around her neck.

Not the kind of story that cries out for a stage adaptation.

Carol Shields' last novel, *Unless*, a wordy, beautiful reflection on what it means to be a woman and a writer, a mother and a wife, seems like the last choice to bring to the stage. Post-modern and tricksy, the novel tumbles with metaphor and angst and features Reta Winters, a protagonist aptly named and not someone you'd beg to spend a couple of hours with in a darkened theatre.

Carol Shields thought differently, and spent the life she had left adapting her own novel into *Unless*. After Shields passed away, her daughter, Sara Cassidy, polished the play, which went on to find success during runs in Toronto and Vancouver, and now comes home to roost at the Belfry. Despite the romantic tale surrounding its birth, the question of whether *Unless* is worth seeing is a difficult one.

Director Roy Surette (also the Belfry's artistic director) knew that the "interior" feel of the novel had to be faced head on. "If the book was very easily adapted into a play, it wouldn't have been quite as interesting," he says. Although the character of Reta was relatively conservative in the Toronto production, Surette and actress Nicola Cavendish had a series of conversations about the character.

"In the book, she is a little less vivacious, which was part of the challenge of adapting the novel for the stage. The novel isn't very narrative-driven, so we wanted to make Reta more dynamic and interesting. It sort of happened over time, but we found that the play was more interesting if we gave her more life," says Surette.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Reta Winters (Nicola Cavendish), right, tries to convince her daughter Norah (Celine Stubel) to give up her life on a Toronto street corner and come home.

Cavendish's performance will come as somewhat of a shock to Shields devotees and fans of the novel. While it is counterproductive to pit media against one another, the very tone and material of Shields' work—the words do remain behind the boisterousness of Cavendish's performance—clash with Cavendish's interpretation and ultimately seem unsuited to the stage. While *Unless* has entertaining moments, it leaves the viewer unsatisfied.

"We brought the life of the novel to the stage," says Surette, "and while we have made it more broad and emphasized the comic, the contrast with the drama of the mother/daughter situation comes across."

But this is where the play errs. It see-saws between the delicate gorgeousness of Shields' lines and the pathos of Reta's situation. And Cavendish's performance, while funny, comes across like Ethel Merman or Shelley Winters in full booming mode. It's hard to savour these lines when you're being steamrolled by Cavendish's magnificent presence and the bombastic supporting cast (including Allan Morgan as Reta's Mr. Braddock-esque husband Tom, and Reta's over-the-top fop literary agent Arthur Springer, played by Michael Spencer-Davis). It's the theatrical equivalent of turning the radio so loud that the sound gets distorted.

The play is fun to watch in spots, though, as Shields had some good ideas about how to translate the postmodernism of her text to the stage. The production—brought to life by set designer Brian Perchaluk, lighting designer Ereca Hassell, and projection designer Tim Matheson—is filled with delightful gimmicks.

The chapter headings of the book—filler words like "so," "heretofore," and, of course, "unless"—are projected, along with other images (a flower, a bowl) onto two giant screens at the rear of the stage.

The words of a letter Reta narrates scroll across the stage, and a merry ping! rings out whenever the characters that populate Reta's novel-in-progress pop up on stage.

The stage itself revolves, indicating the cyclical nature of Reta's life, and the treadmill feel of her existence. The Belfry is the perfect venue as, according to Surette, "the intimacy of the play really fits with the Belfry stage—I really like the way it focuses in together."

But stagecraft can only do so much. The final image of *Unless* shows Reta gazing at the video screen where all the words from the previous screens soar against a backdrop of glittering stars, like so many fireworks. It's a central image in Shields' original draft, says Surette, but the weakest moment in the stage version, and one that reflects the play's unsuccessful attempts at "depth."

The daughter character, Norah, further weakens the material. As a mere catalyst in the novel, rather than a whole person, "Norah's character is somewhat of an enigma—not completely rounded," says Surette. This makes it difficult to care about why Norah has done what she has. In a play, this should be paramount, but *Unless* does not flesh out the wider, symbolic ramifications of her actions.

A single flaw lies at the heart of the stage adaptation: a play does not have to be about a great multitude of things, but a viewer should have something to grasp when she comes out on the other side. The novel *Unless* was merely anchored by a simple story, the bigger picture made up of a myriad of thought and detail, while the play features a wisp of a story garnished with window-dressing that glances off the surface of the material's core complexities. When the play ends on a happy note, we don't feel like we've learned enough to earn it.

"This is an original work that originated in Victoria, and we believe in supporting local writers and artists," says Surette. "And *Unless* is a nice resonant piece of drama—many of today's plays are very light and fluffy, and *Unless* has no easy answers or formulas."

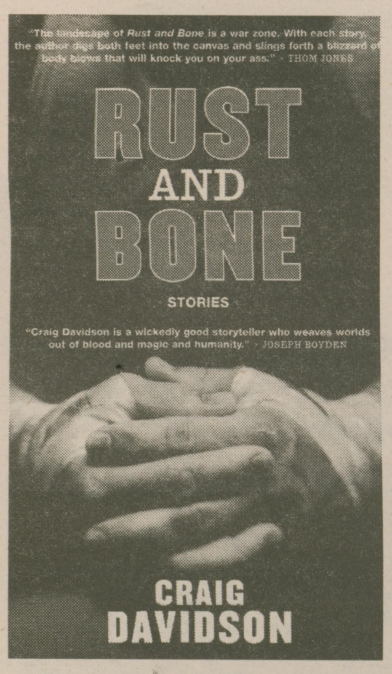
It doesn't, but for once, that's a bad thing.

"*Unless* is so concerned with language and the act of writing. We really wanted that to translate to the stage," he says.

Unfortunately, despite a few bright spots, Shield's concerns and complexities are lost in the translation from page to stage.

BOOK | RUST AND BONE

Tough guy tales are a gritty pleasure



Rust and Bone
By Craig Davidson
Viking Canada

by Cassidy Nunn

The title *Rust and Bone* is as gritty and hard as each of the characters in Craig Davidson's debut collection of short stories.

Penning stories of brutality, blood, and tough guys who can't seem to catch a break, the young Canadian writer has already been compared to *Fight Club* author Chuck Palahniuk. Davidson creates a bleak, haunting world with stories about boxing, sex addicts, fighting dogs, and lost limbs—stories that show the dark side of life with startling imagery.

"Twenty-seven bones make up the human hand," Davidson writes in the title story, "Rust and Bone," which revolves around a boxer with a broken hand who nearly loses his nephew when the young boy falls through thin ice. He breaks his hand once again going after his nephew, and it's made clear that once you "bust a bone in your hand, it never heals right."

In another story, an alcoholic father attempts to live vicariously through his talented basketball-star son. His constant boozing and nasty personality only push his son further away from both him and the game. It's hard to like the father character, given his vile habits and mean temper towards his son and the boy's friends, but Davidson has managed to weave enough humanity into his prose to make it difficult to suppress a certain compassion.

"A Mean Utility" brings to life the brutality of dog fighting in such a graphic way that anyone with an overly active imagination may find the images overwhelming.

A horrific accident with a whale leaves one man legless in "Rocket Ride." His struggle to come to terms with his injury leads him to an amputee support group, but things head in a different direction when he gets involved with a fellow amputee and is forced to face his attacker.

The characters in every story are deeply wounded and scarred by experience, but instead of improving themselves or trying to heal, they continue along their destructive paths. As depressing as that sounds, the stories consistently find closure, but the reader is left hoping that the lives of Davidson's characters will brighten up, even a little.

Crammed with inventive metaphor and striking prose, *Rust and Bone*'s riveting stories are full of shocking intensity—not for the faint-hearted, but a gritty pleasure for everyone else.

Want two tickets to see **Fruit** on Nov. 4 or **Prince Diabate** on Nov. 6?

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Shithead leaves politics to other shitheads

Joey 'Shithead' Keithley is out of the politics game, but that don't stop the rock

Who: D.O.A., with The Keg Killers and The Grey Army
Where: Lucky Bar, 517 Yates
When: Friday, Nov. 4 @ 10 p.m.
How much: $15

by Lindsay Dolling

All the piercings, black hair and melodic riffs in the world can't earn you the loyal following and legitimate punk-rock reputation of Vancouver-bred D.O.A.

Not that some young bucks aren't trying.

Recently, fly-by-night pop-punk bands have been playing off the emotional instability of middle-class suburban youth, supplying them with just enough rebellious screaming and studded pleather to keep their teen angst at an all-time high.

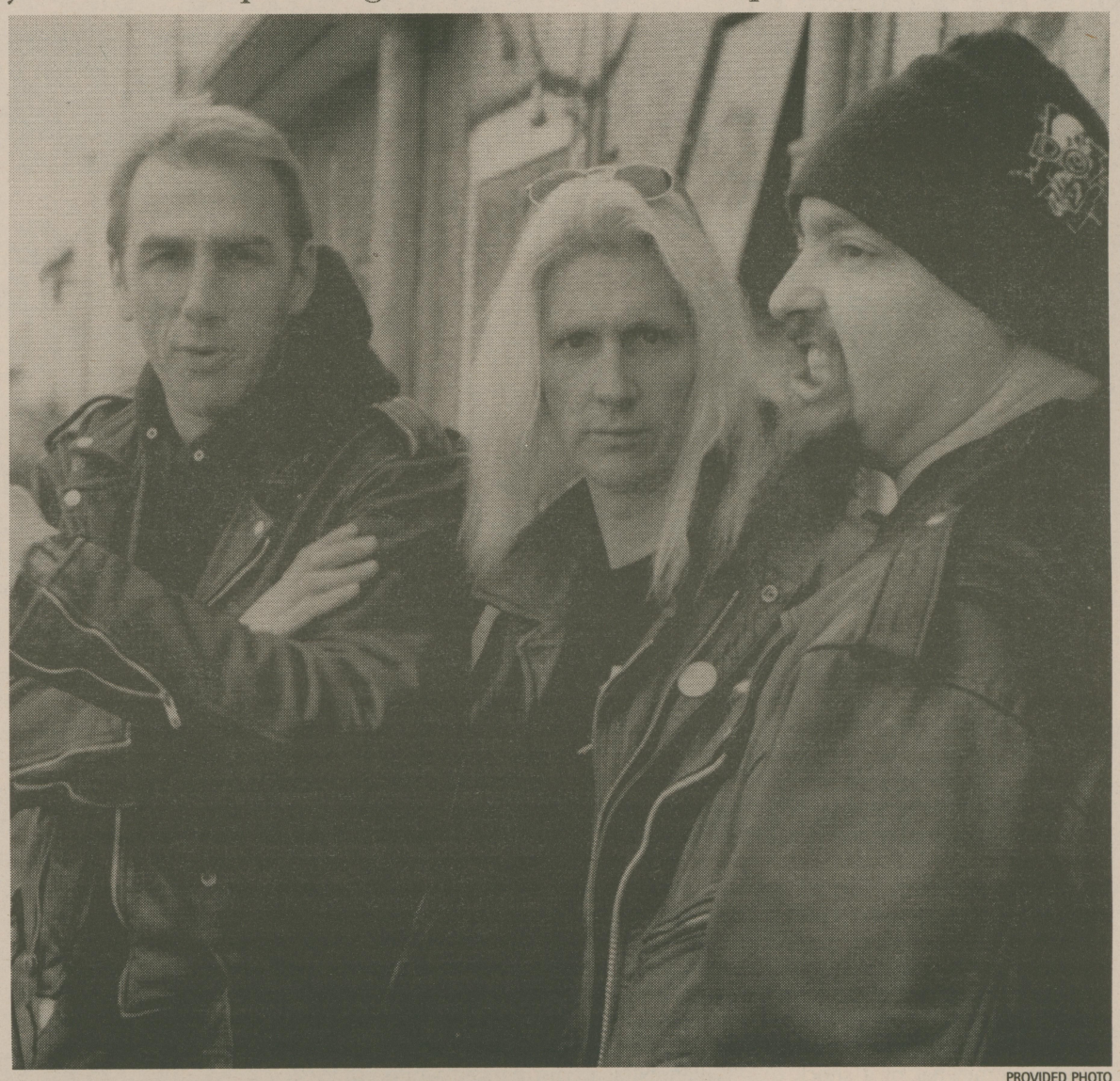
But the lyrics remain shallow and insubstantial to avoid scaring off parents who are all too ready to pitch in for CDs and concert tickets.

These bands, however, rarely make it past a debut album. In such a fickle industry, how is it that D.O.A. frontman Joey "Shithead" Keithley was able to develop a cult-like legion of loyal fans while enjoying a career unmatched in longevity by nearly any other punk auteur?

"Don't try to copy other people, because by the time you see it on TV you will already be behind the trend," says Keithley. Trailblazers in their own right, Keithley and D.O.A. are often cited as one of the biggest influences and inspirations for modern punk rock, including the likes of Green Day, The Offspring, and Propagandhi.

In the classic punk tradition, D.O.A. has never hesitated in sharing their political views.

The band has committed time to charity performances at Greenpeace rallies, anti-globalization initiatives and, most recently, the teachers' union strike.



PROVIDED PHOTO

Joey Keithley (left) ran three times in provincial elections, but he's since decided to focus on signing and promoting new artists on his newly reformed record label, Sudden Death.

D.O.A.'s socially explosive message has opened them up to the kind of criticism that would break most bands.

They, however, seem to welcome it with songs like "Liar for Hire" and "America the Beautiful", from *War on 45 (March Till the End)*, a re-release of the 1982 EP. The lyrics look sarcastically at the instability of the American government, a topic which was just as relevant in '82 as it is now.

It's damn near impossible for an American band to escape criticism for commenting on their country's government, and D.O.A. has gone out on a limb with the majority of their opinions.

"Most people have told me to shut up and that I don't know what I'm talking about. But I do," says Keithley.

Keithley has some unexpected political experience—he ran in three provincial elections as a member of the Burnaby Green Party.

Is a possible political career in the cards for Keithley? He claims to have officially retired from politics.

"Most people will vote for a shithead, I just don't think it's going to be Joey Shithead," says Keithley, despite a third-place finish in his most recent campaign.

With D.O.A. turning the ripe old age of 27, Keithley explains that music will always be in some way a part of their lives. With the 1998 resurrection of his record company, Sudden Death Records, Keithley has signed new bands which he hopes "will put out music that sounds good and has some passion and meaning to it."

Keithley guarantees this Friday's show will be "wild, wild fun."

"We try to go nuts and make the audience do the same thing."

Young wins Butler Prize

by Deborah Daudin

It was an intimate evening among literary fans last Wednesday at the second annual City of Victoria Butler Book Prize award night.

A jury appointed by the Victoria Book Prize Society had chosen five publications from a list of 42 submissions to be on the short-list for this year's prize. The list included works of fiction, creative non-fiction and poetry.

The five nominees are all Victoria residents—one of the criteria for the award. As emcee John Gould pointed out, the choice must have been a difficult one for the jury because there is so much talent in Victoria's vibrant literary community.

After a reading by the author of each nominated book, the prize was awarded to Terence Young for *After Goodlake's*, published by Raincoast Books in 2004.

After Goodlake's is set in Victoria, an element which may have been the decisive factor in the jury's choice. Young's sharp, colloquial style puts him in the company of popular North American authors like Paul Auster and John Updike.

Young, an English teacher at St. Michael's University School, also manages to convey the quirky essence of Victoria by using his familiarity with the city and its inhabitants to enhance details.

At times the suggestion behind a line warrants a knowing laugh: "His landlord was like everybody else in town, trying to turn the clock back and forward at the same time."

Also short-listed for the prize was *Robinson's Crossing* by UVic philosophy professor Jan Zwicky. Zwicky has published six collections of poetry and won several awards, including the 2005 Dorothy Livesay Prize for this, her most recent collection, which relates her own family's involvement in the struggle to maintain the countryside in a remote part of the prairies where she is from.

Zwicky's was the only poetry collection up for the prize and her reading was the most captivating contribution of the evening. With a voice that flowed easily from line to line, Zwicky read her poetry like a personal story.

The other nominees were Anne Coleman for *I'll Tell You a Secret* (creative non-fiction), Pauline Holdstock for *Beyond Measure* (fiction), and Mark Zuehlke for *Juno Beach* (creative non-fiction).

The Butler Book Prize is a private/public partnership funded by the City of Victoria and Brian H. Butler of Butler Brothers Supplies Ltd. It welcomes entries from writers who are Victoria residents having published a book in the preceding year in one of the three categories mentioned above.

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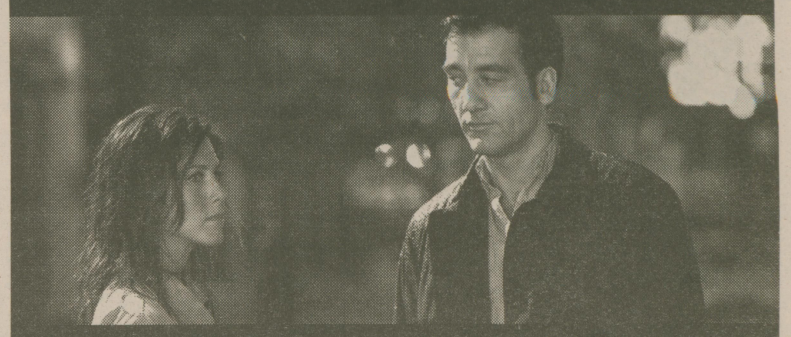


Just come to **SUB B011** and answer this question:
What was the name of **Clive Owen's** character in **The Bourne Identity**?

A new clash on the dancefloor

They're big in England, and these Canadian pop heroes are just warming up

What: Bedouin Soundclash, with The Junction
Where: Sugar Nightclub, 858 Yates
When: Saturday, Nov. 5 TIME?
How much: $15

by Steve Carey

PROVIDED PHOTO

Bedouin Soundclash, from left: Pat Pengelly, Jay Malinowski, and Eon Sinclair.

Canadian reggae-pop group Bedouin Soundclash have a top-five video on the MuchMusic Countdown, a hit single challenging Green Day on the radio, and they're selling out shows on their headlining tour across Canada in support of their latest album, *Sounding a Mosaic*.

"People who just bought the album might be surprised that, live, we're aggressive," says drummer Pat Pengelly, on the phone from Newcastle, England. "Touring is exhausting, but on the road we drop covers into the middle of songs—mostly music that inspires us. I'd say come check us out live. That's where we thrive as a band."

Their sound ranges from bouncing ska to drum-and-bass to dancehall. It's a beachy fusion of reggae and rock, the kind of music you'd ignore your boss to dance to.

The band is wrapping up a tour of the United Kingdom with The Ordinary Boys and will tour Canada with the three-piece indie rock band The Junction as their supporting act. The second Canadian show is in Victoria on Nov. 5.

Guitarist and singer Jay Malinowski's voice is raspy and soulful as he lyricizes themes of discrimination, rebellion and freedom. Pengelly's rhythmic drumming and Eon Sinclair's heavy bass flesh out a sound that's as enjoyable as it is thought-provoking.

The threesome met while first-year students at Queens University. For $300 they bought one day of studio time to record their first album, *Root Fire*. After selling a few thousand copies, the band was signed by Montreal-based Stomp Records.

Bad Brains bassist Daryl Jennifer got a hold of *Root Fire* through a mutual friend and offered to produce *Sounding a Mosaic*.

"Bad Brains, besides being the instigators of American hardcore, fused reggae with their music," says Pengelly. "[Jennifer] really understood where we were coming from—jungle, dub, two-step. . . . He was amazing to work with."

Sounding a Mosaic was first released domestically way back in April 2004. It appeared in the U.S. later that year and the U.K. in September 2005.

"We each took out bank loans and funded it ourselves," says Pengelly.

The single, "When The Night Feels My Song," has been getting major radio airplay in Canada and the United Kingdom. The music video, filmed in Toronto's Kensington Market, is a stylish collection of machine gun edits and picture-in-picture. It has been climbing the MuchMusic Countdown charts for the last seven weeks and is currently in the top five.

"[Director] Marc Ricciardelli really understood what we were trying to do," says Pengelly. "He made it work on our budget. He'd directed videos for a bunch of Canadian punk bands. It was awesome to work with him."

The Soundclash have built momentum by touring exhaustively.

"We wanted as many people to hear [our music] as possible," says Pengelly.

According to U.K. papers, their pre-show list of demands (called a rider) includes Tizer (a brand of soft drink), 30 cases of pot noodles, an umbrella and some Monty Python videos.

"They've got a different media [in the U.K.]. There's a large consumer base for music . . . the tabloid culture is pretty intense," says Pengelly, laughing. "But yeah, it was all that stuff you just listed."

Bedouin Soundclash has another single in the works, a recently recorded cover of U2's "New Year's Day" with Ian Broudie, former producer of Echo and the Bunnymen. Steve Harris, the engineer for the track, has worked with U2 themselves.

"[It's been] part of our live set for the last year now. Our U.K. label offered to record and release it before Christmas. We had a day off, so we just drove to Liverpool and worked from 10 a.m. to midnight and got the track down."

The band hopes to release a split EP with The Ordinary Boys and bring them over to Canada for a tour in the new year. Pengelly is excited to upgrade the mini-van to a full-size.

"It'll be a nice change. [The van] is in the process of being purchased."

And the pot noodles on that peculiar rider?

"I'll have it known that I like pot noodles," says Pengelly.

Local glass-blower goes for the gold

Starfish Glassworks' co-founder Morna Tudor incorporates precious metals into glass art

by Lucas Ker

Glass blowing requires strong arms, strong lungs, deep concentration and high resistance to heat. Morna Tudor, barely five feet tall, has all the required strength and more.

Tudor first started studying glass blowing over 20 years ago and has been a self-employed artist ever since. During that time, she has participated in over 120 group exhibitions and headlined at least 13 private shows. Although she has branched off, teaching, lecturing and writing, the core of her work has always been in glass.

It was her mother's handcrafted Dutch decanter that first caught Tudor's eye as a child.

"It was simple and elegant and well designed," says Tudor. "It still influences the work I do now."

Following her childhood infatuation, Tudor lived the turbulent life of an artist. She now co-owns a successful studio-gallery in downtown Victoria.

Starfish Glassworks was founded on a cold February day in 1997 by Tudor, her husband and fellow glass blower Gary Bolt, and Lisa Samphire.

"I remember when we first moved into the place, it was freezing," Tudor recalls. "All we had was a coffee maker, a couple of milk crates, a phone and a phone book."

From those humble beginnings, Starfish Glassworks has flourished. Displaying the work of over 40 Canadian artists, it is packed with sculptures, and the glass blowers sweat as they work among the glowing furnaces.

From Nov. 24 until Dec. 31, Starfish Glassworks will be putting on its annual fall show, "All That Glitters. " As with the regular display from the gallery, the show will have contributions from the resident artists as well as a number of glass blowers from across Canada.

"It's a pretty loose theme," explains Tudor. "We're looking for a marriage of precious metals and glass. I asked the artists to just take off with the idea."

The show will include examples of everything from earrings to soup bowls, yet because of the nature of the materials used, the pieces will be more than expensive usual, says Tudor, whose own contributions will be lathered in gold leaf.

"Handcrafted glass is expensive," admits Tudor, who uses glass dishware in her own home. "But when people see all the effort that goes into making the objects, the overhead of running furnaces hot enough to keep glass liquid and the electric ovens as well as the skill of the artists, it's actually quite reasonable."

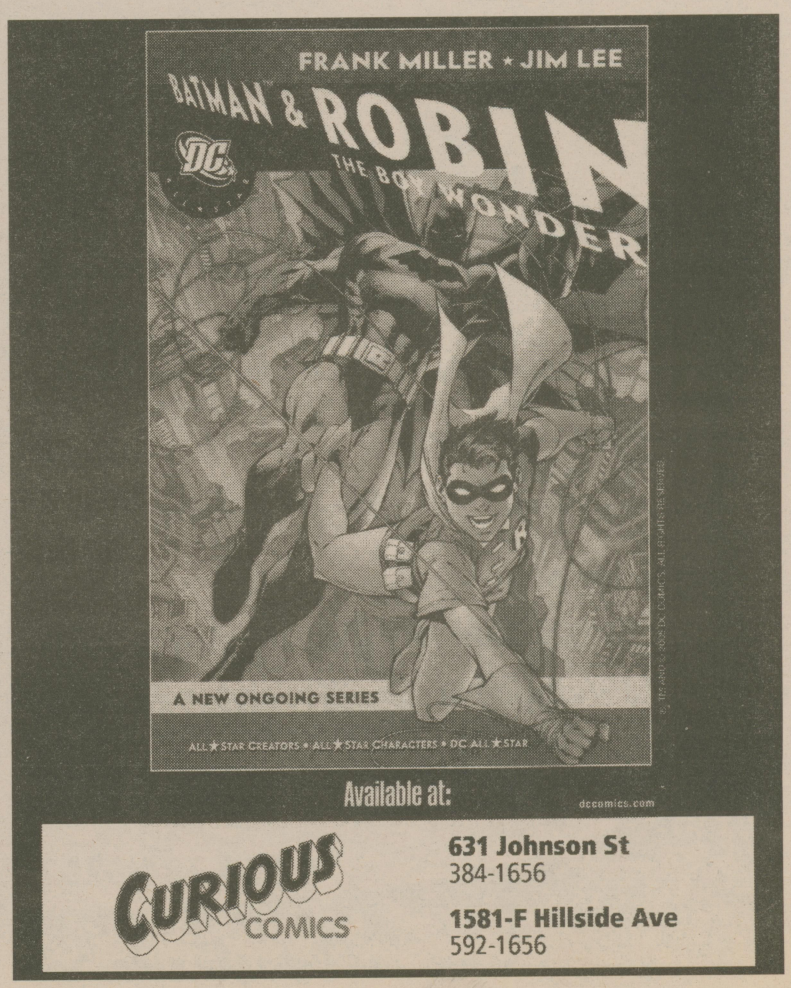
Starfish Glassworks is not the first gallery Tudor has founded. In 1986, after completing her training at Sheridan College, Tudor and several other artists were sponsored to convert an old barn into Celeden Studios Inc. in Barrie, Ont.

She acted as resident artist and president of the little gallery for several years, until the backing money ran out.

"One day we showed up and the front door was locked and the back entrance barricaded by a bulldozer," says Tudor. "We grabbed as much of our personal stuff as we could and left."

Finally, after a disappointing stint in Toronto where she spent more than a year making only perfume bottles, Tudor and Bolt came out west for a working holiday at a friend's studio, an arrangement that quickly became permanent.

"We fell in love with the coast right off," says Tudor. "I went back to Toronto, sent our stuff out, hopped on a plane, and the rest is history."



MOVIE | THE LEGEND OF ZORRO

Rewriting history, Zorro-style

Fighting terrorists and enfranchising the marginalized—a long American tradition

by Michael Williams

The Legend of Zorro sucks.

The fact that it sucks is not surprising; indeed, it is the type of movie that one should expect to suck. That the suck gets stretched out for 120 minutes is unwelcome, but not wholly surprising either. What was unexpected was the film's attempt to rewrite history by transposing modern fears and policies into a mythical time in America's past.

Apparently, the current democratizing effort in the Middle East is part of a long and proud American tradition that includes the enfranchisement of impoverished Mexicans in 19th century California.

Yes, when citizens of that disputed territory went to the polls in 1850, it was not to secure the wealth of the Californian gold fields or an attempt to legalize the appropriation of Mexican territory. No, director Martin Campbell's latest work wants us to believe that the 1850 California plebiscite was about delivering exploited Chicanos from the hands of wealthy landowners.

Is this an attempt to shore up the Hispanic vote in modern California? Perhaps. That Hispanics continue to be exploited by wealthy landowners in the 21st century goes unacknowledged in the film.

Ah, but the history lesson does not end here. America, according to *Zorro,* has been fighting terrorists for more than a hundred years. Yes, the war on terrorism began in the Old West, it seems, when megalomaniacal European royalty plotted the downfall of an ascendant U.S.A. with their own WMD, nitroglycerine. According to the proto-CIA men in the film, America had "opened its gates" to all manner of evil from around the world, and an aging Zorro had no role in protecting the nation.

Complete with a crypt-like laboratory à la Wild Wild West, this film—which felt like a Lone Ranger/Indiana Jones/Batman amalgam (with a Bond-style evil henchman sporting an Oriental moustache)—strays ne'er far from the formula. Neither Catherine Zeta-Cleavage nor Bare-chested Banderas could redeem this too-long, too-clichéd, and unsettlingly patriotic film.

Fine fodder for American schoolchildren indoctrinated to swallow myth, perhaps, but not for the thinking public.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Catherine Zeta-Jones and Antonio Banderas try to shoosh critics of this pointless sequel.

CD | THE BEST BLUES ALBUM IN THE WORLD . . . EVER! VOL. 2

Various Artists
The Best Blues Album In The World . . . Ever! Volume 2
EMI

by Clarke Ries

Calling your compilation CD the best in the world is a gutsy thing to do, especially when so many skilled artists have spent years perfecting their talent for the blues.

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The Best Blues Album Ever, to paraphrase the title, is true to its name and a terrific listen. In an age of ripped songs and house mixes, a good compilation CD isn't worth as much as it used to be, but every once in a while something magnificent comes along and blows whatever playlist you thought rocked hardest right out of the water.

A cautionary note to hardcore blues fans: it's likely you've already heard most of the tracks included, and there isn't any new material to be found on the album. At the same time, this eclectic sampling of the blues may very well surprise you with the unique mix of artists it brings to the mic. Mississippi Fred McDowell, anybody?

Combining B.B. King, Muddy Waters, and Stevie Ray Vaughan (to name some of the album's better known bluesmen) is a surefire recipe for getting your head nodding and your foot tapping. You might even want to whistle along, if you think you can keep up with an album full of legends.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Blues legend Muddy Waters contributes to the compilation.

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MOVIE | SAW II

Even worse than *Saw*

by Sacha Narine

Here's the twist: he's made of ice cream. *Saw II*'s vicious villain, Jigsaw, is made entirely of DQ soft serve.

No, I'm just fucking with you—but *Saw II* ends with an equally dissatisfying reveal.

Last Halloween, I joined millions of other horror fans in laughing at the mediocrity of *Saw*, a low-budget Australian-produced gore-fest that nabbed $18 million US from American audiences on its opening weekend. *Saw* is brutal and amateurish. Veteran actors Cary Elwes and Danny Glover chew the scenery while Leigh Whannell's screenplay scrambles to hide countless plot holes.

Even so, *Saw* saves its own ass with a narcotically edited conclusion that montages its way through the movie's key moments, climaxing with a truly unbelievable reveal that's as easy to laugh at as it is to love. On the strength of a few repulsive climactic moments, *Saw* raked in $100 million US worldwide.

With a slightly larger budget—$4 million, up from the original's $1.3 million—*Saw II* boasts higher production values, a handful of talented actors (including former New Kid On the Block Donnie Wahlberg), and more of the same ludicrously awful ways to kill an immoral character.

Curmudgeonly detective Eric Matthews (Wahlberg) learns that the notorious Jigsaw killer (Tobin Bell) has a specific interest in the Matthews family. The coppers track ol' Jigsaw down and, surprisingly, he doesn't put up much of a fight. While the first film kept Jigsaw hidden until its final moments, here he is, a wheezing, enfeebled cancer patient with no way to fight back.

Unless you consider that trap-infested house in which Jigsaw has so carelessly locked eight unlucky excons, including Eric's son, Daniel.

Jigsaw just wants to chat with Eric, but the cops need to find the house so they can save its unfortunate inhabitants, who are forced to play a sequence of repellent games in order to escape the nerve gas slowly eating away their insides. In effect, they all have TB, and the winner of each game is rewarded with a cure.

The trouble with the games is that if you want to win, you'll just have to roll up your sleeves and sift through that pit of hypodermic needles with your bare hands. Or, if you'd like, you can climb into an oven and pull a couple of dangling chains to see what happens. It's your call. No pressure.

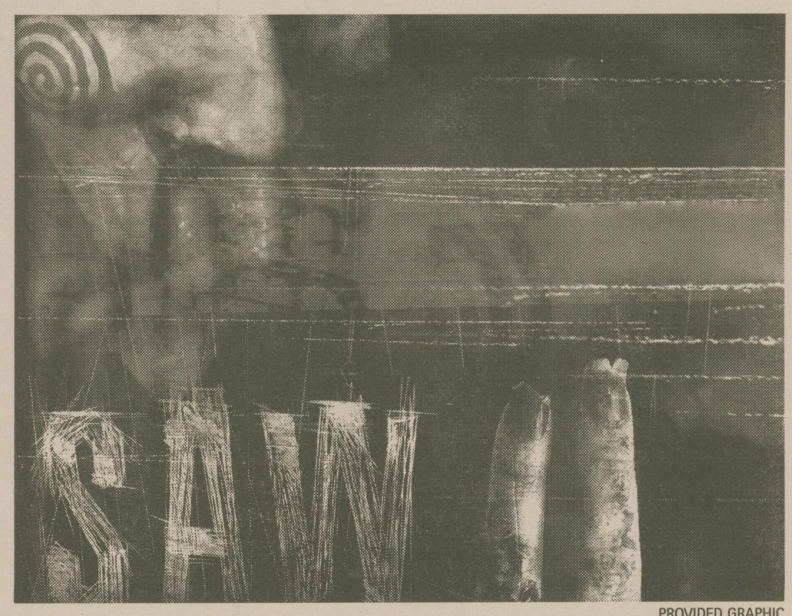
Yup, it's nasty, but hardly frightening. Some of the traps are just plain dull, like the blades that dig into Addison's (Emmanuelle Vaugier) wrists when she tries to recover the antidote from an uninviting mystery box.

Then there's the disheartening tone of the death scenes, more depressing than sinister. Watching a man die from smoke inhalation and heat stroke isn't exactly what I was hoping for with that whole trapped-in-an-oven thing.

The trouble with *Saw II* is its joyless slaughter. We've got at least six unsympathetic meatbags locked in the "Last House on the Left"—so let's kill them and make a bloody mess doing it. Sure, lots of people die, but not spectacularly enough for the audience's enjoyment.

Like déjà vu, *Saw II* offers a speedy, twisted conclusion, an "I'll take you there, alone" echo of David Fincher's *Se7en*, and a recap montage pointing out all the clues we missed. Then . . . BANG! There's the ice cream.

Saw II betrays its predecessor. Without a fun surprise ending and some truly repulsive gore, neither film would be any good. The sequel tries its best on both fronts, but not even gore or twisted logic or the ironic talent of Donnie Wahlberg can keep *Saw II* from tumbling into mediocrity and dragging everyone involved down with it.



PROVIDED GRAPHIC

The original advertisements for *Saw II* were recalled by the MPAA.

MOVIE | PRIME

I Nailed Your Son: The Movie

by Micah Luxen

They're falling for each other.

It's the same predictable formula: a woman and a man desperately want each other, yet something stands in the way. In this case, it's the fact that the beautiful Rafi (Uma Thurman) is 37, and the very sincere David (Bryan Greenburg) is 23. And then there's the horrible revelation that Rafi's therapist, Lisa (Meryl Streep), with whom she shares every secret, is David's mother.

Confronted with this conflict of interest, most mothers would let the patient go or at least reveal their identities.

In the movies, however, characters end up in the most inconvenient of situations, so Lisa resentfully chooses to listen to Rafi discuss every graphic detail of her son's sexual talents, in order not to upset her patient. Rafi and David are oblivious until the whole situation blows up in all of their faces as a result of David's controlling, overly concerned mother.

PROVIDED PHOTO

A vibrant Uma Thurman, right, barely holds *Prime* together.

The most random aspect to the movie, however, is David's friend, who enjoys throwing cream pies in peoples' faces for no apparent reason.

The whole pie aspect, along with their boyish friendship, doesn't do anything for David's image. Filmmaker Ben Younger attempts to exhibit how sincere and grown up even a kid can be, capable of fulfilling the older leading lady's innermost needs.

Unfortunately, David isn't quite convincing as Prince Charming, and while the two characters do seem to be into each other, it's not obvious why Rafi would be so willing to bridge the age gap. David is not especially charming, funny, or even all that good looking. He plays videogames. She cleans up his breakfast mess. "She can't live without him"—but we're not sure why she even likes him!

The entire situation engenders such apathy that no one could possibly care if they get together or not. Like David himself, the film is not arresting. Over and above the obvious predictability of the romantic comedy, Younger has included every possible cliché, complete with a goofy sidekick, gay best friend and bickering Jewish grandparents. Perhaps grandparents can be forgiven for being stereotypical, but even Streep jumps overboard with her incessant Yiddish sayings, until absolutely no one in the audience could possibly miss out on the fact that she's Jewish.

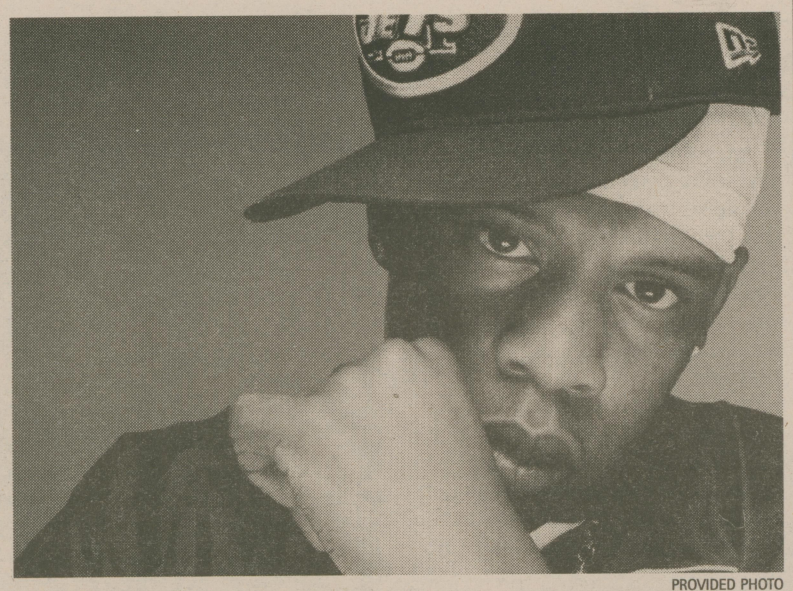
Despite Lisa's grating mannerisms, she and Rafi build a believable relationship—vulnerable, sweet, and somewhat strange, due to the fact that Rafi is unknowingly throwing her foot all the way into her mouth.

The highlight of the film, Thurman's Rafi is vivacious and adorable.

This dim illumination of Uma's character is about the only trick *Prime* has to capture its audience's fragile attention.

HIP HOP COLUMN | BEATS & RHYMES

by Ty Lemmon



PROVIDED PHOTO

Rapper Jay-Z is lining up a bid for English soccer club Arsenal.

The big news last week: platinum rapper Cam'ron was shot during an attempted carjacking while promoting his various Diplomat Records endeavors in Washington. Apparently Cam was riding solo in his 2006 Lambo when he stopped at a red light, and some gun-wielding savage shot him following his refusal to part with the luxurious automobile.

Although retaining his means of transportation, both Cam's arms were pierced by a single bullet. Thankfully, he was able to negotiate his way to a nearby hospital.

The news follows Cam's decision to sign a multi-million dollar deal with upstart label Asylum Records, which distributes Mike Jones and Webbie. Cam is currently prepping the release of *Killa Season*, following his disappointingly under-promoted album *Purple Haze*, which dropped last year.

Puff's ATL supergroup Boyz-N-Tha-Hood was seriously restructured last month.

Following his incredible solo success, Young Jeezy has left the group amicably. The Snowman was unable to tour with BNTH this summer, which many cited as the primary reason for the group's somewhat lacklustre album sales. While many wrongly assumed T.I. would replace Jeezy (he has his own group in the Pimp Squad Click), Puff stunned the majority of rap heads by inducting Cash Money's Lil' Wayne into the group. This was a calculated move and will undoubtedly ensure that their sophomore album eclipses their debut, at least commercially.

Jay-Z is reportedly lining up a bid for a partial stake in English Premier League soccer club Arsenal. Big Pimpin' has been on the prowl lately, assuming full control of Def Jam Records and blessing his labelmates with some impressive verses. It would seem a profitable, beneficial endeavor from my vantage point, particularly with the London club moving into a new stadium relatively soon.

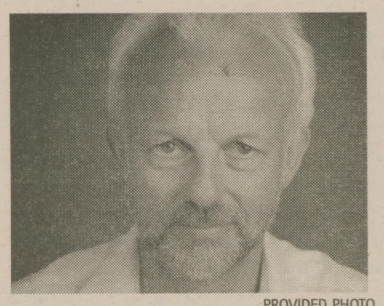
A new release, Twista's *The Day After*, does well in illuminating the talents of boardsmen such as Scott Storch and the Neptunes, and Twista's quick flow makes a mockery of the slowed-down, drawled lyrics that are currently preferred in the South. Pretty solid stuff emanating from Chi-Town.

That's all I got. To the readers of this column I say have a good one. And to the other columnists fretting about in a confused manner, when you see me show me some respect. Peace.

Songs from the greatest generation

What: Victoria Symphony's "Tribute to the War Years"
Where: Royal Theatre, 805 Broughton
When: 1:30 p.m. on Nov. 11
How Much: $9.75 for students

by Melanie Tromp



PROVIDED PHOTO

Actor Christopher Gaze.

This Remembrance Day, members of the Victoria Symphony are celebrating our war veterans by blending a little culture into history and paying homage to brilliant compositions from the wartime era.

The 1940s were a decade of conflict—Hitler, nuclear arms, the "Red Scare," and the emergence of rock and roll. Such a politically and culturally charged era deserves a musical tribute, and 2005 marks the first year conductor Giuseppe Pietraroia has presented this recital to the city's concertgoers and war vets.

"It's interesting to look back," says Frances Perriam, who will play the featured piano solo in the concert, "[and] music shows you very quickly, more than anything, the mood of the era."

Although the tunes from the chaotic '40s are not particularly profound, they "give you that nice, warm, cozy feeling" that Perriam fondly remembers from early childhood memories of her parents' LPs. She pointed out that music of the time was often embraced as an escape from the terror overseas, thus the style of the pieces reflect cultural ideals and desires.

Perriam will be performing British composer Richard Addinsell's most acclaimed piece, the "Warsaw Concerto," which was written for the 1941 war film *Dangerous Moonlight*. The passionate nine-minute movement relays the dubious story of a shell-shocked Polish concert pianist flying in Britain's Royal Air Force.

The accomplished pianist and Victoria native has performed with the symphony since 1985. After studying a year at UVic in the 1960s, she finished her education abroad in London and returned to Victoria as an instructor at the Conservatory of Music.

Perriam's fingers will glide across the ivories of the symphony's most recent acquisition: a brand new Steinway & Sons Model D concert grand piano. The instrument was purchased by the Royal and McPherson Theatre societies from the Steinway factory in New York.

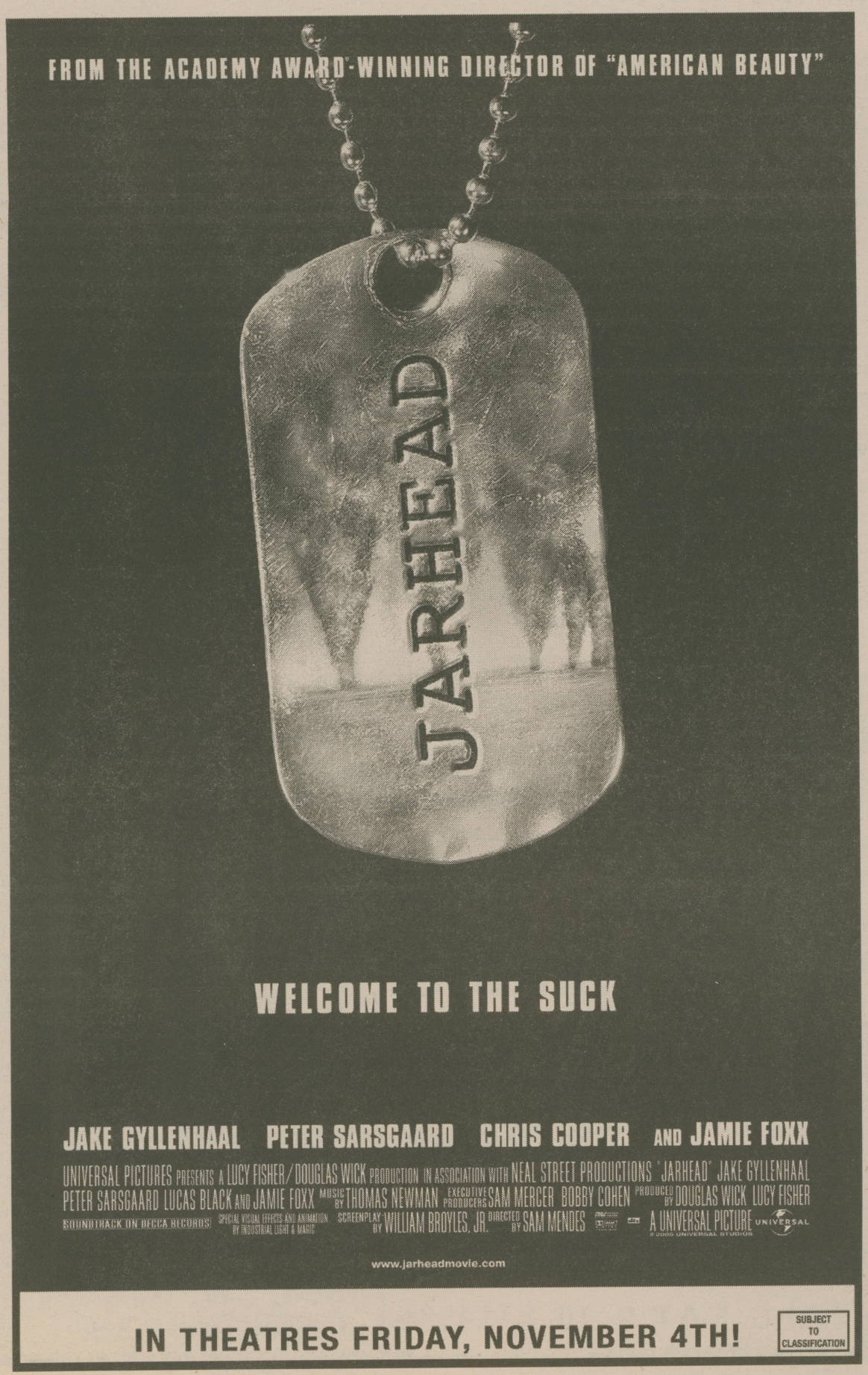
Though this isn't the Model D's debut, Perriam said that new conductor Pietraroia is looking for avenues to showcase the extravagant purchase and attract a broader audience to Symphony recitals.

Through a mixture of orchestral pieces, choral performance and nostalgic anecdotes, the Symphony aims to highlight the spirit of adventure, danger, love and loss intrinsic to the '40s.

In addition to Perriam's piano solo, one of Canada's finest sopranos, Erica Northcott, will sing wartime melodies, including the infamous "Keep the Home Fires Burning."

In accompaniment to the musical program, actor and "Bard on the Beach" founder Christopher Gaze will relay anecdotes and evocative stories from the period.

The afternoon begins with tea and refreshments in the lobby of the Royal Theatre at 1:30 p.m.



BOOK | FREAKONOMICS

Pop economics book embraces controversy

Freakonomics
By Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner
William Morrow

by David Karp

Don't be scared off by the title—you don't have to be a math geek to enjoy *Freakonomics*. The unimposing bestseller is a gem that examines everything from sumo wrestling to drug dealing.

Co-written by Steven Levitt, an economist at the University of Chicago, and Stephen Dubner, a New York Times journalist, *Freakonomics* is highly accessible. The pair make quirky arguments with surprising clarity. The subtitle of the book sums it up—"A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything."

Freakonomics is a collection of Levitt's ponderings and theories. He shows using logic and statistics how teachers will doctor their students' tests, and under what circumstances sumo wrestlers will throw their matches. He examines the success of the Ku Klux Klan and compares it to the success of real estate agents.

Levitt does not shy away from controversial theories. As if relating the business of real estate to the KKK is not controversial enough, Levitt argues that abortion is the main reason for the decrease in crime in the '90s, providing evidence that unwanted children are more likely to commit crimes. The theory has outraged both abortion critics and abortion advocates. Yet, with the help of Dubner, Levitt presents a compelling case that is difficult to dispute.

The book attacks another sensitive topic: the racial divide in the United States. Levitt examines children's names and draws up lists of "black names" and "white names," arguing that a name is a predictor of success in life. Levitt also bites into the timeless nature-versus-nurture debate, in the chapter "What Makes a Perfect Parent?"

Freakonomics also does not shy away from the unusual, as Levitt explains the corporate structure of a drug gang in a chapter called "Why Do Drug Dealers Still Live with Their Moms?" A colleague of Levitt's actually infiltrated the gang to gather the information, and the pair compiled a paper afterwards which is the basis for the chapter.

The main downfall of *Freakonomics* is that it lacks a point. The ideas presented in the book are fun and original, but at the end, you can't help but wonder what it was all for. The book has some interesting answers, but if you're seeking the answer to something truly meaningful, you'll be disappointed.

VIKES | MEN'S SOCCER

MEGAN STEWART PHOTO

Dan LePage, right, fights to step past a rough Pronghorn defender for a clear shot on goal.

Tie ends playoff run

Vikes 2–2 draw leaves team out in the cold and out of Canada West finals

by Tim Boultbee

A 2–2 tie against the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns Oct. 30, was not enough to send the UVic men's soccer team to the Canada West championships.

The Vikes needed a win to clinch a final playoff spot and the draw put them just outside the top four. The University of Calgary Dinos defeated the UBC T-Birds 2–1 for a playoff berth.

With 18 rookies, the Vikes started the year on unsure footing but made a solid playoff run late in the season with three wins and one tie in their last four games.

"It's been a real challenge this year and I must say the team has pulled together well," said head coach Bruce Wilson. "We had a lot of people graduate and two or three were injured and didn't come back, so it was a time to change the team around and I must say that the young players have responded well."

On a rain-soaked and slippery field, the Vikes opened scoring at the 23-minute mark when Cole McFarlane crossed the ball into the box and found midfielder Jordan Reems, who headed the ball into the net. The goal came moments after the Vikes put a shot that went off the Pronghorn's goal post.

In the second half, the Vikes pressed the Pronghorns but couldn't score. Pronghorn midfielder Matt Hillian tied the game at the 56-minute mark with a high-arching shot from outside the 18-yard box that fell into the Vikes net behind the reach of Adam Guy.

Minutes later, the Vikes swarmed the other end and crashed the net but were again unable to finish the play. The Pronghorns replied with their own pressure and took the lead 2–1 late in the second half. Five minutes later, the Vikes tied the game after a scramble in front of the Pronghorn net which led to an own-goal.

Lethbridge's Kevin Sawchuck disputed a call by the referee and was ejected from the game. Despite a 12-minute advantage and evident spark after their second goal, the Vikes were unable to score and pull out the needed win.

Wilson said the team finished hard and played well, but he was not pleased with the first, high-floating Pronghorn goal.

"Our goalkeeper must be able to handle a shot from that distance," Wilson said. "I wasn't pleased with that goal at all."

The team had their chances, he added, but the game "just didn't go our way."

Vikes midfielder and team captain Will Moore was visibly disappointed after the game and said the team should have pulled out a win in the clutch.

"We should have won today and we didn't take our chances," said Moore, who played his last game as a Vike against the Pronghorns. "We needed a win today and we didn't do that.

"It was unlucky for us today. The bounces didn't go."

The Vikes finished the season with five wins, five losses and two ties, a win behind the Dinos (6-6-0).

VIKES | WOMEN'S SOCCER

Women set for post-season

Vikes cap off the regular season in second place and face rival TWU Spartans at the Canada West championships

by Amanda Hale

The Vikes shutout the University of Lethbridge Pronghorns 2–0 in their last regular season game Oct. 30.

The win solidified the Vikes' second-place berth in the upcoming Canada West Tournament.

The game began with mixed intensity on both ends of the field, but a quick UVic goal in the eighth minute from Moira Hood shifted the play for the rest of the half and the Vikes maintained possession. In the 15th minute, Amelie Mercier netted her 12th regular-season goal as she placed the ball in the bottom right corner and put the Vikes two goals ahead.

Despite the early lead, the Vikes' intensity did not match the pre-playoff level that most teams strive for. Before the game, head coach Tracy David said the team's biggest challenge would be locating a "killer instinct" to execute a win. But with a playoff spot in the bag, the pressure to dominate the game was not as urgent.

"We need to treat this game like a warm-up to the playoffs," said David Oct. 28. "It's time to keep the momentum strong and finish our scoring opportunities."

Both teams showed a second-half surge in energy and the Vikes offence pushed hard into Pronghorn territory but was unable to put the ball in the net. UVic spread the field and the mid and defensive lines worked passing options to keep possession.

The Vikes showed an ability to maneuver the ball around Lethbridge players and a number of offensive crosses created smooth scoring opportunities that will serve as an asset during playoffs.

"We took control of the game," said David after the final whistle. "Our players spread all over the map and demonstrated their teamwork. We used the second half to switch up our players. The point of this game was to get every player some playing time on the field."

The Vikes will face Trinity Western University Spartans Nov. 5 in Calgary.

The match will be a repeat of last season's semi-final where the Spartans knocked-out the Vikes in a 1–0 shootout. The winner of the upcoming game is guaranteed a spot at the CIS National Championships.

"Trinity will be a great match for us," said David, as she shook the rain from her slicker. "We're right where we want to be."

The second match-up will pit the University of Calgary Dinos against the UBC Thunderbirds. Last year, the Dinos took the win before falling 4–0 to the Spartans in the Canada West final.

EDWARD HILL PHOTO

Sondra Contumelias, right, takes to the air and challenges for the ball Oct. 30 at Centennial Stadium.

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Workin' up a sweat with water wings

Student fundraising event isn't just for buoyant old ladies and people with arthritis

by Ashley Akins

You don't have to be old, you don't have to be overweight, and you're guaranteed a strenuous workout.

That's the message University of Victoria students Nicole McLeod and Kira Peterson will try to get across at their Nov. 16 aquafit-a-thon. The Physical Education students are hosting a two-hour aquafit class, "Waterfit for a Cause," to raise money for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation and to promote a workout that isn't very popular with anyone outside of its niche.

"People have a pre-conceived idea of what [aquafit] is," said McLeod, "but you get out of it what you put into it."

Aquafit is a cardio and strength workout done in the water, often with the instructor leading the class from the pool deck. Liquid resistance helps tone and shape muscle groups. It's also a perfect fitness alternative for those with back, hip, and knee injuries.

"It offers a safe and effective way for different types of people to get a workout," said Peterson. "It is much safer on the joints than running or land aerobics."

But their event isn't just a promotional tactic for a different fitness regimen. McLeod and Peterson hope to raise at least $600 for breast cancer research.

The idea stemmed from an assignment for a popular UVic PE class, Human Wellness and Potential, but soon developed into something much more elaborate.

Not only are they "making a change within themselves" as the assignment requires, they are organizing a large-scale community event that involves extensive fundraising, planning and promotion.

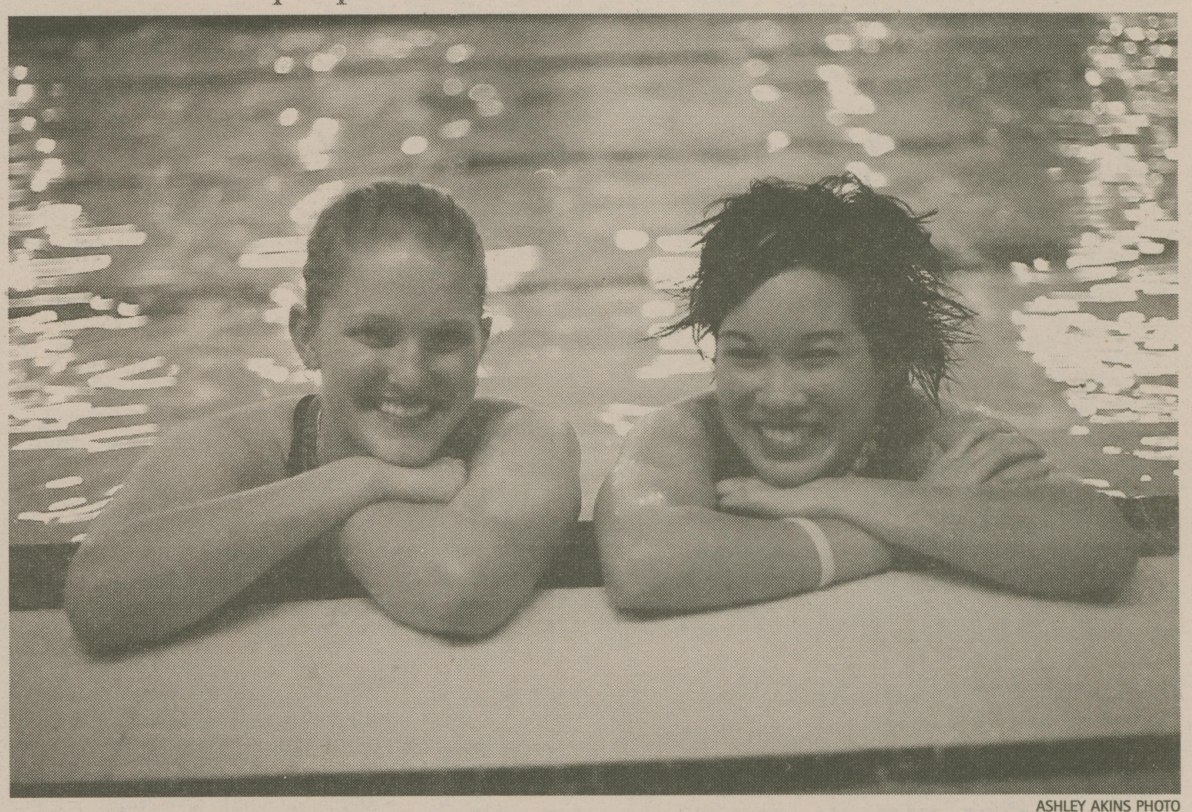
"Breast cancer is something that has hit both of our families," said Peterson, whose grandmother died of the disease. "It's something we both want to contribute to."

Peterson and McLeod, both third-year students in the Recreation and Health Education Co-op program, have been aquafit instructors for over four years and wanted to use their experience for a good cause. Gordon Head Recreation Centre, where they both teach aquafit, jumped at the chance to support them and offered its facilities for the two-hour event at no cost.

If aquafit brings to mind bouncing grannies in water wings, think again. "It's a challenge," said Peterson. "See if you can make it for the whole two hours."

But if the 120-minute challenge is too much, McLeod adds that it's important to know your limits and encourages people to come out for part of the time nonetheless. And if breathing hard and sweating for an evening isn't your idea of fun, you can still participate and donate to the cause.

"You can just sit in the hot tub," McLeod said with a laugh.



ASHLEY AKINS PHOTO

Nicole McLeod, left, and Kira Peterson are raising funds for breast cancer research and will host an aquafit aerobics class Nov. 15.

Waterfit for a Cause is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 15 from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Gordon Head Recreation Centre. Participants can come by at any time. The drop-in event will offer deep and shallow-water classes during the first two hours, followed by closing celebrations with prizes from health and fitness organizations.

Student drop-in fee is $3.75 and further donations are encouraged.

For more information or to make a donation, contact Kira Peterson at peterson@uvic.ca.

COMMENT | MLB WORLD SERIES

White Sox sweep World Series, break 1917 curse

Chicago White Sox defeat Houston Astros to win World Series after 88-year drought

by Gavin Day

In a four-game sweep ending Oct. 26, the Chicago White Sox defeated the Houston Astros to win the World Series for the first time since 1917.

The White Sox ran away with the series and are the deserved champs after topping the American League Central Division and losing only one game the entire post-season. Their pitching was solid and every player contributed when called upon. The win capped off arguably the most exciting post-season in recent years, with nearly every series full of action.

To quote the great Yogi Berra, "It ain't over till it's over." And this year no game of the World Series was determined until the final out was played.

In Game 1 the White Sox earned a 5–3 decision against the Astros in Chicago.

Game 2 hung in the balance until the matter was definitively put to bed. The Astros were leading 4–2 into the seventh inning when Paul Konerko hit a grand slam to put the White Sox up by two runs. The Astros looked to force extra innings by scoring two runs in the top of the ninth, but the White Sox had none of that as Scott Posednik hit a solo homerun in the bottom of the ninth to win the game and give Chicago a 2–0 series lead before heading to Houston.

Game 3 was a back and forth affair, with the Astros jumping out to a 4–0 lead. Chicago's five runs in the fifth inning almost held up until the end, but Houston tied the game in the bottom of the eighth and the two teams went to extra innings. In the 14th inning, former Astro Geoff Blum came off the bench to smack a two-out solo homerun putting the White Sox only one win from the title.

Blum, pulled off the bench all season for the clutch play, is a switch hitter who delivered in the clutch by taking a pitch deep when it was needed.

Pitching finally became a factor in Game 4, and the 1–0 final was the only game that didn't see a homerun. The lone run came in the eighth as Jermaine Dye's base hit off inconsistent Houston closer Brad Lidge brought Willie Harris across the plate. The pitchers were finally able to keep their throws in the strike zone, and both teams were forced to manufacture runs instead of relying on the long ball.

But that was enough to end 96 years of futility for the White Sox.

All in all, this post-season was a great one for baseball.

This year saw an 18-inning marathon in the National League Division Series between the Astros and the Atlanta Braves. It was a game that was won by a homerun in the bottom of the 18th and featured two grand slams.

Baseball knows drama and another example came in Game 5 of the National League Championship series. With two outs in the top of the ninth, and the St. Louis Cardinals trailing Houston by two runs and facing elimination, Albert Pujols performed magic. He stepped up and smacked a massive three-run homerun to give the Cardinals the win.

About 100 days remain until pitchers and catchers report for spring training and even less time until we're talking about next season. The big question is, will the final MLB curse be broken?

In 2004 the Curse of the Bambino fell aside as the Boston Red Sox won the World Series, and this year the White Sox won for the first time since the First World War. One major curse remains in pro baseball: the Chicago Cubs have not won the World Series since 1908.

Will it be broken? Come April, we'll begin to find out.

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VIKES ScoreBoard

Men's basketball

Vikes 59–56 Spartans

The Vikes defense won the close match against Trinity Western University, said head coach **Craig Beaucamp.** The game was tight at the close of the match and the Spartans came close to forcing overtime but a three-pointer off the glass bounced off the rim as time ran out.

Jacob Doerksen 14 points, six boards; **Tyler Hass** 12 points, seven boards; **Steve Moore** 11 points.

Vikes 84–Spartans 71

Five Vikes hit double figures Oct. 29 in the second game of a double header against the TWU Spartans. **Doerksen** opened scoring with a three pointer and **Chris Trumpy** followed with a three of his own.

Moore 16 points, five boards; **Hass** 15 points, five boards; **Doerksen** 15 points, six boards; **Matt Kuzminski** 15 points, five boards; **Trumpy** 10 points, eight boards.

Women's basketball

Vikes 60–Spartans 48

The women's season opener Oct. 28 saw the TWU Spartans repeatedly claw their way back into the game only to have the Vikes pull ahead.

Janet Hatfield 19 points, seven boards; **Jamie Bell** 11 points, three boards; **Leanne Shenton** seven points, eight boards.

Vikes 66–53 Spartans

The Spartans defense closed in on 6'3" center **Hatfield** and the Vikes struggled to score early. At the half **Ashley Yee** put the Vikes a head by one point after stealing the ball and streaking down court seconds before the buzzer.

Hatfield 24 points, eight boards; **Lindsay Hewson** 16 points; **Shenton** nine points, five assists, five steals.

Ziak dreams of going the distance

Former Vikes runner aims for 2008 Beijing Olympics

by David Karp

PROVIDED PHOTO

Jerry Ziak crosses the finish line after a half marathon in Nanaimo this September.

This is the make or break year for Jerry Ziak.

A former Vikes cross-country runner, 29-year-old Ziak will retire in August if he can't break onto the international running scene.

He had a strong start to the year with a first-place finish at the TIMEX Canadian 10-kilometre Road Running Championships Oct. 9 in Winnipeg.

Still, Ziak isn't getting his hopes up. "I know there are a few guys [in Canada] that are still challenging for me to beat," he said, "and they weren't there."

Ziak, who earned a psychology degree from UBC this year, has a full plate. But between volunteering at a Vancouver health psychology lab and coaching high school cross-country and track and field, his priority is running and he trains full time and runs 11 times a week. Ziak is taking a last shot at the big time.

He has a target to meet in order to break onto the international scene and if he succeeds, Ziak will set his sights on the 2006 European circuit, the 2007 IAAF World Championships in Osaka, and the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

If he fails, Ziak plans to pursue a master's degree and eventually a PhD.

"By the end of the summer, if I'm not at that level, I want to be able to say to myself, 'I gave it this year.' I'm hoping I'll just be able to bow out of the sport knowing I gave it that shot."

For Ziak, running will always be for enjoyment. "It's like eating, sleeping and brushing your teeth," he said. "You just don't feel right after a while of not doing it."

Raised in Courtney, north of Nanaimo on Vancouver Island, Ziak started running in Grade 4. "Everybody was like, 'Wow, you're good at this,' and they'd pat me on the head and say, 'Keep on going.'"

He kept going, and ran throughout his teens. His high school coach, Sharon de Goede, says Ziak was very good, but was not the best runner on a team that won three straight provincial championships.

"There was no gift for him. It was just hard work," said de Goede, who praised Ziak's dedication. "I think all of his teammates are off being doctors now. He's the only one still running."

Ziak's hard work in high school earned him a scholarship to Auburn University in Alabama, but he left the NCAA program and cited "racism [and] and fundamental religious values" as reasons to move on. "I just didn't like the deep South," he said.

"I was a 19-year-old, seeing the world away from home for the first time, and I just realized that wasn't the place I wanted to spend another four years."

Ziak moved on to Boise State University, where he spent only one semester because he didn't click with the coach. He ended the semester over-trained, aching and slower.

Tired and disillusioned, Ziak returned to Courtney for a few months before spending a year in Vancouver and then four in Victoria training and working full time. In 2001, an injury-plagued Ziak returned to school and enrolled in psychology at UVic.

Brent Fougner, the Vikes cross-country head coach, heard Ziak was on campus and asked him to join the team.

"I agreed," said Ziak, whose priority was then school, "but in my mind, I was like, 'I'm not going to take it seriously.'"

If he was taking it easy, it wasn't very evident. Ziak won the Willamette Invitational, one of the largest and most prestigious races on the west coast, followed by the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) championships in 2001.

"I won [the CIS championships] handily and felt amazing at the end," recalled Ziak. The victory qualified him for the World University Championships in Spain, where he finished 22nd. It was his last race as a Vike.

"I knew that I had the ability, but what surprised me was not taking it seriously," he said. "I think being at UVic and enjoying the races I did with UVic brought enjoyment back into my running."

Fougner describes Ziak as a thinking athlete who was easy to coach. "Jerry is very talented. I think if he's able to train full-time, his potential is unlimited."

However, Fougner said it won't be easy for Ziak as he faces an international scene dominated by younger, emerging international talent. "It takes more than talent when you're 29."

Despite his success at UVic, Ziak took the summer track season off, and in the fall moved to Vancouver with his girlfriend and enrolled at UBC.

"I was like, 'Well, I've gone to three different schools. Why not one more?'"

In his first year, Ziak did not run with the varsity team, but concentrated on academics. Because of eligibility rules, he was also forced to sit out one year after transferring from UVic. He started competing for UBC in 2003 and quickly became the team's top runner.

"There were a lot of jokes and concern about me being the perpetual university athlete," said Ziak. "A couple universities protested when I started competing for UBC. They thought that for sure that I had no eligibility left."

In 2003, Ziak started coaching and led the cross-country team and founded the track team at University Hill Secondary in Vancouver. The size of the cross-country team grew from six to 28 under Ziak's leadership.

"Jerry's a pretty motivated guy, and his motivation spreads to everyone else," said Gavin Anstee, winner of University Hill's top athletic award this year. "The only time he ever missed a race was when he had a paper a week overdue."

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ON CAMPUS

UVic's IP Law Club presents Cyberlaw! an exciting conference on internet and e-commerce issues featuring Michael Geist, Michael Manson, and Robert Howell. Time: Nov 4th, 1:00-5:00 p.m. @ Fraser Bldg. email: jmarles@uvic.ca for information and reservations.

C.G. Jung Society Lecture
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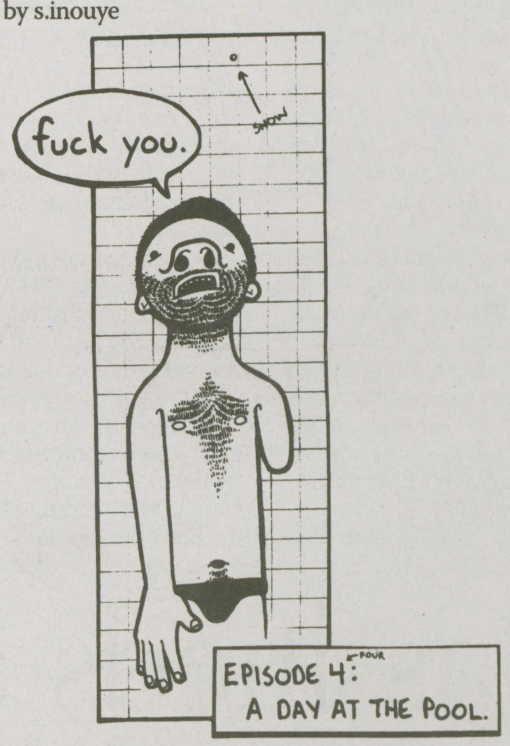

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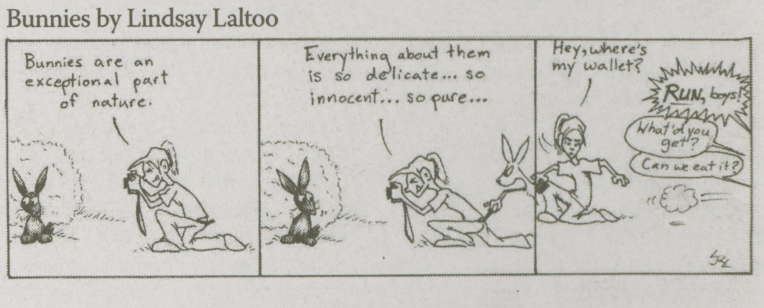

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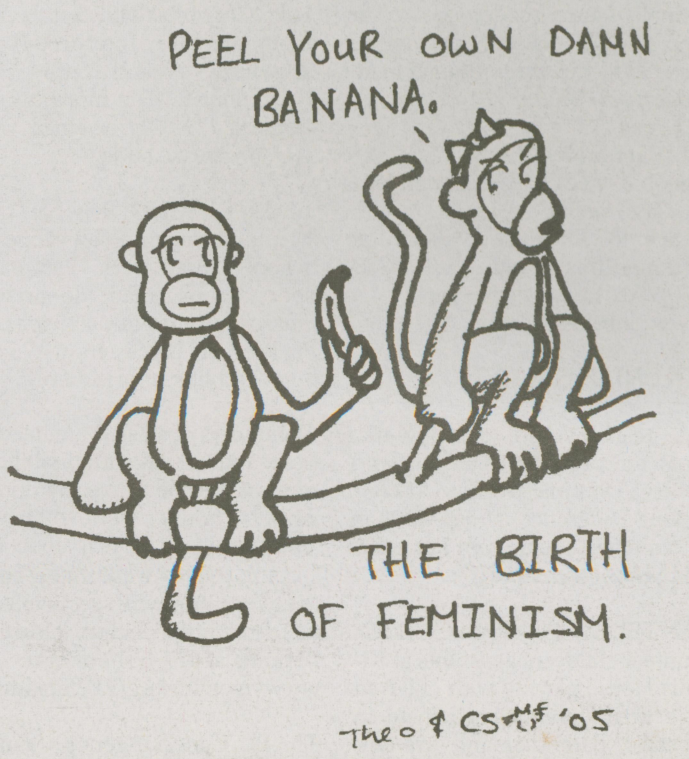
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